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BY R. BRADLEY

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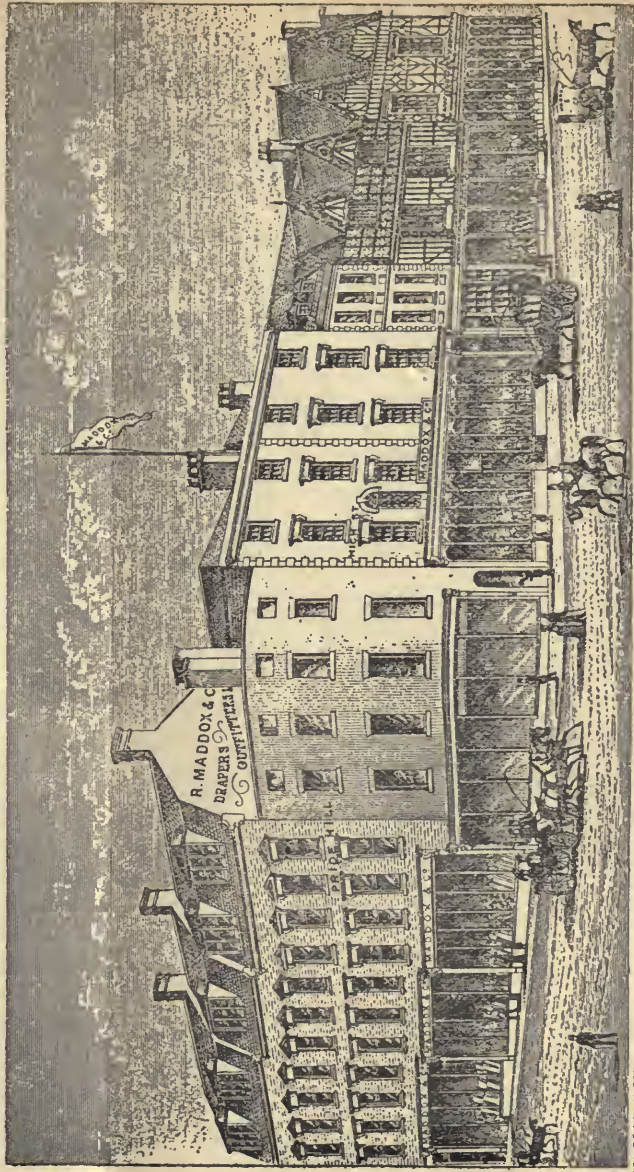
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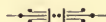
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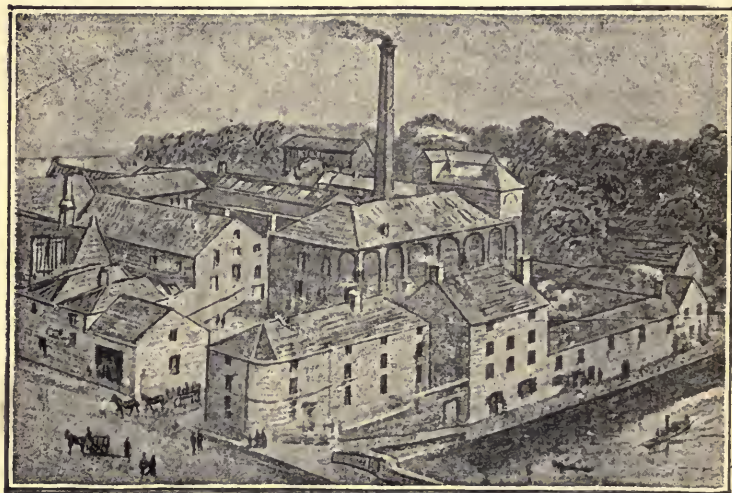
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THE ENGLISH BRIDGE.

From Photo by J. Laing, Shrewsbury.

A  
NEW GUIDE  
TO  
SHREWSBURY

BY R. BRADLEY

---

FULL-PAGE ILLUSTRATIONS AND MAP

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J. G. LIVESEY  
ST. JOHN'S HILL PRESS  
1893.

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## Preface.

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FEW words, by way of preface, seem called for in the circumstances under which this little work is issued. Its aim may be said to be three-fold—to take up the thread of Shrewsbury's history at the point where precedent Guides and Hand-books had, of necessity, left it; to help, briefly and popularly, Salopians themselves (and the younger generation especially) in forming an adequate conception of the distinguished place and part which their old town has occupied and played in the past; and to make known, as widely as may be, its picturesque beauties, its modern residential advantages, and the great attractiveness of its surroundings. It does not presume to the dignity of a History. It seeks simply to act the humbler part of a Guide, recalling the more important incidents of Shrewsbury's record, bringing the continuity of that record fairly "up to date," and pointing out, *en passant*, the town's more salient features of material interest. In doing this, and in noting, here and there, certain suggested improvements of the town's sanitary conditions, argument, whether for or against such suggestions, has been purposely avoided, the author limiting himself, as a general rule, to a statement of accomplished facts.

Grateful acknowledgments are due and gladly here accorded to the Rev. W. H. Draper, M.A., Vicar of Holy Cross; to Mr. W. Burson (the author of several contributions to local history); to Mr. J. Williams (Clerk of Town Council Committees, Guildhall); and to Mr. Dove (Superintendent of the Quarry grounds), for the valuable information and assistance they have severally extended to this work in its progress through the press.

Thanks are due also to Mr. J. Laing, Art Publisher, Castle Street, Shrewsbury; Messrs. Frith and Co., Photographic Publishers, Reigate; and to Mr. T. Hudson, Landscape Photographer, London, for views from which the majority of the illustrations are reproduced.

And lastly, thanks are respectfully offered the Right Rev. the Bishop of Shrewsbury (Sir Lovelace Stamer, Bart.) for kindly permitting the use of the new engraved view of St. Chad's Church.

R. BRADLEY.

SHREWSBURY,

*August, 1893.*



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Sedgwick, Engraver, Blackfriars, London.

From Photo by J. Hudson, Published by Poulton & Son, London.

IRELAND'S MANSION.



## A Glance at Shrewsbury's Past.

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THE border lands of Shropshire, and especially the regions watered by the Severn, are richly crowded with places of antiquarian, archæological, and historical interest, yet none surpass, either in these aspects or in natural picturesqueness, beauty, and salubrity of situation, the ancient town of Shrewsbury—the capital of the County. Encircled, or very nearly so, by a broad and winding river, and seated upon twin hills, that rise gently towards its centre from the water's edge, it possesses natural advantages of residence and defence that must, even in the very primal times of human settlement in these lands, have singled it out as a favourite site for habitation. Its earliest days as a dwelling place run so far back they are lost in the mists of remotest antiquity. Silures, Britons, Saxons, and Normans have made it, in turn, a hut, a palace, or a fortress, each occupying race giving to it a name or names variously expressive of

the different features they saw in it most striking and significant. "Careg Hydwyth"—the shrub-covered rock—was one of its primitive appellations, and this distinguishing characteristic of the river-encircled mound was one that likewise struck long subsequent dwellers—the Saxons, who also styled their settlement here "Scrobbesbyrig." To the Ancient Britons it was similarly "Pengwerne"—the Hill of Alders. But to the forerunners of these, and even yet to their racial representatives the Welsh, whose warm love for the land and ardent poetical temperament sought more enthusiastic phrase, it was "Amwythig"—the Delight! And a delight it is still, as any eye for the picturesque and any heart for the appreciation of the survivals of a far-receding antiquity must recognise and acknowledge. Standing upon an elevated and somewhat spacious peninsula, and originally and for many ages limited no doubt to the area circumscribed by the river, it has, in later times, and most rapidly and extensively in quite recent years, over-passed the stream and spread along the meadows beyond into suburbs known as Frankwell, Castlefields, Coleham, Abbey Foregate, and Belle Vue. On the narrow neck of the town-built peninsula the Normans erected a strong Castle, and now (close under the shadow of its two surviving towers) we moderns have interpolated a Railway Station. The town is, as might be supposed from its origin and vicissitudes, irregularly built—happily without any so-called comprehensive plan; and so, being (also happily) little "mauled" by the mistaken improvements of the modern architect, it retains a character and individuality more distinct and special than most other English towns boasting perhaps equal antiquity. It has two main lines of thoroughfare—

indicated by the obligations of its position and old-time defences—the one communicating between and over the two great bridges, and the other intersecting that line from the direction of the Castle Gate on what may be termed the “land side.” A narrow margin of meadow and garden ground runs, with public path-way, round the outer circle of the old town alongside the Severn's banks, and here and there one may still detect surviving relics of the massive stone walls that once served to secure its inhabitants from the predatory inroads of “the rebel Welsh,” or the even more to be dreaded visits of Cromwellian rebels, in the disastrous days of the Civil War. From all points along the line anciently followed by the town's mural defences there are views and “bits” of peculiar beauty,—meadow, water, and woodland, enhancing the picturesque attractiveness of the scene.

What a history must be that of Shrewsbury! If, instead of its past being revealed to us in disjunct patches and in tantalising glimpses only, we might read the whole course of its days in veritable sequence and in the graphic detail and searching light that some omniscient eye and mind might yield for us, what a striking, wonderful, and profoundly interesting historical panorama it would be! It has for ages shared in no slight measure the disasters, the troubles, the triumphs, and the glories of the great country whereof it has always formed an honourable part, and wherein through many a year of martial conflict and civil turmoil it ever constituted a post of high importance; for it was no petty spot hid in ignorable obscurity, but a place that had inevitably to be reckoned with, and, therefore, was ever coveted and struggled for by whatever power or party aimed at the

mastery in the state. Let us glance over its past. We have here neither time nor space for more. The Ancient Britons, having driven out precedent dwellers, established a colony on the hill of Pengwern, their little wattle-built city being the capital of the old Principality of Powis. Then came the turbulent exterminating Saxons, and they, expelling the Britons, changed the name of the spot to Scrobbesbyrig, and greatly added to its opulence and importance. In the time of Alfred it was one of the principal cities of England; it had a mint of its own in the days of Edward the Elder; Ethelred kept his Christmas here in 1006; and Edward the Confessor often honoured the place with his presence and burthened it with his court. Next, after the decisive catastrophe of Hastings and the Conquest, the Normans arrived upon the scene, and they, dispossessing the vanquished Saxons, at once parcelled out Salopia, as they had done other parts of the Kingdom, among themselves. Shrewsbury, together with nearly the entire county round about, fell to the share of the famous Roger de Montgomery, a relation of the Conqueror himself, and one of his chief lieutenants, afterwards created Earl of Shrewsbury, Arundel, and Chester. It was this potent baron who built the Castle, and he it was also who built and richly endowed the Abbey—a Benedictine foundation dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul—as, it is said, “a grateful and pious offering to Heaven for the success of his arms.” But these vast possessions did not remain long to the great Earl’s family, for (Earl Hugh having been killed in some conflict with the Welsh in Anglesey), the third Earl, Robert de Belesme, forfeited all by repeated treason and rebellion. During several subsequent centuries Shrewsbury was frequently the scene



of conflicts between the restless Welsh and the dominating Norman power, and, as being one of the chief military posts along the Welsh Marches, was often visited, not only by the Lords of the Marches, but by successive Kings of England. In the struggle between Stephen and the partizans of the Empress Maud, the former took the Town and Castle (then held by a Fitzalan) by storm, putting the garrison and the inhabitants to the sword and inflicting a cruel vengeance. King John held a Council here "on Welsh affairs;" and, following upon that event, a number of noble Welsh hostages, given by the Prince of Powis for his people's good behaviour and loyal vassalage, were afterwards put to death in Shrewsbury by an officer of the King. This act of cruelty was soon afterwards avenged by the Welsh under Prince Llewellyn, who, after signal successes over the interposing forces of the Lord of the Marches, suddenly appeared before Shrewsbury, which at once submitted and was entered by him without opposition, his followers plundering the town and slaughtering many of its people. From the reign of John to that of the First Edward, Shrewsbury was in the very centre of the bitter conflict that, with little interruption, was carried on between the Welsh and English, until at length, through the defeat and death of Llewellyn and of David, the final submission of the Principality was enforced. It is said that during that period the town sustained and suffered the rigours of no fewer than seven sieges. Edward II. marched with an army through Shrewsbury from Worcester. In the reign of Richard II. another Council or Parliament was held here, the place of assembly being the Abbey, or rather the now vanished Chapter House adjoining. In the succeeding reign,

the border troubles with the Welsh broke out anew, the prime instigator of the revolt being the famous Owen Glyndwr—said to have been lineally descended from Catherine, one of the daughters of the unfortunate Prince Llewellyn. So great for a time were the successes of Glyndwr, and so formidable did he threaten to become, defying the authority of the Lords Marchers and dominating the border lands even up to the very walls of Shrewsbury, that Henry IV. determined to inflict such chastisement upon these Welsh disturbers of the national peace as should set the question of their subjection finally at rest and vindicate his supreme royal authority. He had sent several armed expeditions against Glyndwr, but all in turn had failed. He now, therefore, set himself more vigorously and resolutely to the task of bringing the Welsh again into subjection. He directed that the royal forces should approach the scene of operations from three different directions. One division was to rendezvous at Shrewsbury under his own personal command; the second at Hereford, under the Earls of Stafford and Warwick; and the third at Chester under Prince Henry. Again, however, were Henry's plans doomed to be frustrated. He failed to bring Glyndwr to an action, for the Welsh Chieftain discreetly withdrew his forces into the recesses of their mountain valleys, whither the English could not follow; and the King was eventually constrained—his soldiery being only engaged for a limited service—to commence a retreat which closed disastrously. The continued success of the Welsh and the discomfiture of the forces of the King had the effect of encouraging the latter's enemies, particularly the noble northern house of Percy, to try

their hand at overturning a throne the latter had done much to set up. A correspondence was opened between Glyndwr, Earl Percy, and the Scotch Lord Douglas, and others of the disaffected nobility of the North, with the result that they soon mustered a force of some 12,000 men, and began their march southward in the direction of Wales. This was in the midsummer of 1403. Learning that the Northumbrian forces were marching upon Wales, there to be joined by the Welsh bands under Glyndwr, and that they were concentrating upon Shrewsbury, Henry, who fortunately had still a fairly strong body undisbanded, abandoned his previous intention of marching north, and immediately hurried westward. He reached Shrewsbury about the 19th or 20th of July, fortunately just in time to frustrate any intended junction of the forces of Glyndwr and of the Percies. His object was to strike the rebels in detail, without giving them time or opportunity for collecting or concentrating their strength. In this he succeeded. It was on the 21st of July, 1403, on ground about four miles westward from the town—since known as Battlefield—that was fought one of the bloodiest and most decisive battles ever fought upon English soil, and one that the genius of Shakspeare has immortalised. It was here, as every reader of Shakspeare knows, that the valiant Falstaff performed such feats of endurance and of valour, fighting, as he averred, against tremendous odds, “a long hour by Shrewsbury clock!” Percy fell, and with his fall, the rebels lost heart, and fled in disorder and dismay, pursued by their pitiless enemy, who inflicted upon them a great slaughter. It is said that on that fatal day there fell on both sides

2,300 knights and gentlemen, besides 6,000 private men, the vast majority of them being of Percy's following. The Earls of Worcester and Douglas were taken prisoners; the former (with Sir Theobald Russell and Sir Richard Vernon) were shortly afterwards beheaded at the High Cross in Shrewsbury. Douglas, however, was released without ransom. The body of Percy, found among the slain and buried by a kinsman, was, by Henry's order, exhumed and exposed to public gaze in the Market Place of Shrewsbury, and afterwards quartered and hung upon its several gates. Most of the dead were interred in the fields where they had fallen, though some of the more notable found more honoured resting places in the Blackfriars and St. Austin's Friars in Shrewsbury. To gratefully commemorate his great victory, Henry founded a Collegiate Church on the scene of the battle—since known as Battlefield Church—and placed in it five Canons whose duty it was to pray for the souls of all that fell on that memorable and fatal field. This Church was thoroughly restored in 1861. Through all changes, vicissitudes, and conflicts that variously disturbed the course of our island's history during the subsequent two or three centuries Shrewsbury bore no insignificant share. In the Wars of the Roses the town continued, in the main, steadily attached to the Yorkist cause. In 1460, after the defeat and death of his father, at Wakefield, the Earl of March visited Shrewsbury, entreating aid in his attempt to avenge his father's wrongs; and it was with an army largely raised in this neighbourhood that he afterwards gained his great victory at Mortimer's Cross, and eventually secured the Crown. So conscious was he of the fidelity of the

Salopians, that he ever looked upon the borough and its burgesses with especial favour. In the troubled reign of Richard III. it is (by some authorities) held that the Duke of Buckingham, for conspiring against the sovereignty of that tyrant, was executed in Shrewsbury (and not at Salisbury as others contend) before the High Cross by Richard's order and without legal trial. So great, however, grew the popular hatred of Richard's rule that renewed conspiracies arose to end it. When Henry, Earl of Richmond, landed in England on his expedition to wrest the Crown from Richard, he, landing at Milford Haven without opposition, marched to Shrewsbury, where, after some little show of hesitancy on the part of "Maister Mytton," he and his followers were received by the burgesses with every demonstration of joy and welcome. Henry was, it is said, first proclaimed King on his entrance into this town; and it certainly was by the help of large numbers of Salopians who then joined his standard that he afterwards won the decisive victory of Bosworth Field. So keen and lasting was his remembrance of Salopian loyalty to his cause that he, after attaining the crown, visited Shrewsbury on several occasions. In 1488 he sojourned here several days; in 1490, he, with his Queen and Prince Arthur visited the town, and attended a solemn mass, sitting under rich canopies in the choir of the old Collegiate Church of St. Chad; and, five years later, he was again here, being then loyally entertained by the Corporation at a sumptuous feast in the Castle. From this time forward for some two centuries and a half Shrewsbury appears to have pursued quietly the even tenour of its way, free from the distracting contentions and turbulences that, from time to time, marked the



course of English history outside its walls. Wales, whose persistent antagonism to English authority had so long kept the lands and towns of the Marches in a chronic state of unrest, had been effectually "pacified," and thus, no doubt, Shrewsbury, so important in keeping Welsh marauders in check, had gradually been left in peace, if not neglect, losing, with its whilome perils, much of the royal attention wherewith through many ages it had been conspicuously honoured. At any rate history makes no mention of any event of national or regal interest in association with Shrewsbury until we come to the days of the unhappy Charles and the Great Rebellion. In 1642, Charles, in the beginning of his armed conflict with Parliament and people, had raised the royal standard at Nottingham, but, not meeting there with the loyal response he had hoped for, marched on to Derby, and thence, knowing how well affected was the town and fortress on the Severn, he proceeded to Shrewsbury, where he was welcomed by a vast assemblage of citizens and gentlemen from the surrounding country. During his stay here he took up his residence at the Council House—a building at the head of Castle Gate, wherein it had been the custom for the Lords of the Marches to sojourn and hold their court. The Princes Rupert and Maurice were also stationed here. The town was by Royal order made a garrison, and a fort—called Cadogan's Fort—was erected on the Mount, to prevent attack upon the town from the adjacent heights. He also established here a royal mint, where a good deal of the silver plate of his loyal Salopians was converted into the coin of which he and his cause then stood in such urgent need. After Charles's departure, and through the subsequently

varying fortunes of the Civil War, Salop remained true to the Royal cause, though it is not to be supposed there were not many amongst her burgesses who sympathised with the Parliamentarians. Indeed, it is manifest that such was the case, for in the early part of the year 1644 or 1645 the town, held till then by the Royalists, was suddenly captured, almost without a blow, by a Republican band under Colonel Mytton, internal treachery admitting the assailants under cover of night through the water-gate or postern nearest the river. The whole of the Magazine belonging to Prince Maurice fell into the hands of the victors. The loss of Shrewsbury, esteemed the gate of North Wales and the strongest of the King's garrisons, was naturally regarded by the Royalists as a most severe blow. In connection with the disastrous troubles of those years, one of the many tragedies that marked in blood the domination of the Parliamentary party, was the execution of Captain John Benbow, who, for alleged apostacy and treason to the people's cause, was, by the triumphant Roundheads, shot on the green in front of the Castle of his native town—he being a Salopian and uncle of the famous Admiral Benbow, whose exploits at sea in the reigns of Charles II. and Ann are not surpassed in all the long and glorious roll of England's naval achievements. After the restoration, Charles II. visited Shrewsbury, and, impressed, no doubt, by memories of its loyalty to his family, and admiring the beauty of its situation and the evidences of its growing importance, he then offered to raise it to the dignity of a "city," but, (so runs the story) the burgesses preferred to remain burgesses, and declined the proffered honour, thus earning for themselves the cognomen of "Proud

Salopians!" In 1687, James II. spent the 25th August in the town, keeping his Court at the Council House. He was entertained with great hospitality by the inhabitants, the conduits running wine, and bonfires and illuminations welcoming the royal guest.

Shrewsbury's latter history partakes wholly of a pacific and, necessarily, of a somewhat prosaic, yet prosperous character. Its extension has been steady, though slow, and great improvements have, in course of years, been made in the condition of its streets, markets, and public edifices. It is, perhaps, to be regretted, from an archæological and antiquarian point of view, that a large portion of the ancient town wall, with its towers and gates, has disappeared, and that so many other mural relics of the past have in like manner succumbed to the attacks of the modern builder; still there may be compensation in the reflection that what the town has thus lost in antiquarian interest it has more than gained in general convenience and facility of access, in sanitary efficiency, and in the amenities of its modern aspect. Within the limits of what may be considered its latter-day or comparatively recent history—within, say, the last century—the appearance of the old town has undergone little short of transformation, even while its streets and thoroughfares not only occupy their ancient position and direction, but preserve, in most cases, their old and (to strangers) very singular nomenclature, as, for example, "Wyle Cop," "Dog-pole," "Mardol," "Bell-stone," and "Shoplatch," &c. Among the more noteworthy changes that the bye-gone century has brought about in Shrewsbury, and which will receive fuller reference in subsequent pages, may be mentioned

the building of St. Chad's Church on its present site, after the collapse of the ancient edifice on Belmont through the sudden giving way of one of its central pillars; the restoration of the Abbey Church, and the making of the new road-way adjoining it; the re-building of the "Welsh" and "English" Bridges, the General Infirmary, the New Shire Hall, the Music Hall, the Gaol, the Post Office, the General Railway Station, the New Market, and the Eye and Ear Hospital; the erection of the extensive School Buildings on Kingsland, and the removal thither of the famous old School from its ancient location in the town opposite the Castle; the building of the New Military Dépôt at Copthorne; the laying out of the beautiful and picturesque grounds near the suburb of Meole as a Public Cemetery; the throwing of a new and graceful Bridge over the Severn between the old town and the suburb of Kingsland; the opening of the Free Public Library and Museum in the ancient and imposing range of buildings formerly occupied by Shrewsbury Schools; the establishment of the spacious and commodious Smithfield for the sale of all descriptions of cattle and live stock; and last, though by no means least in importance and attractiveness, the laying-out, planting, and beautifying of the incomparable public park known as "The Quarry"—a work that is largely to be credited to the successful enterprise, generosity, and good taste of the Shropshire Horticultural Society.

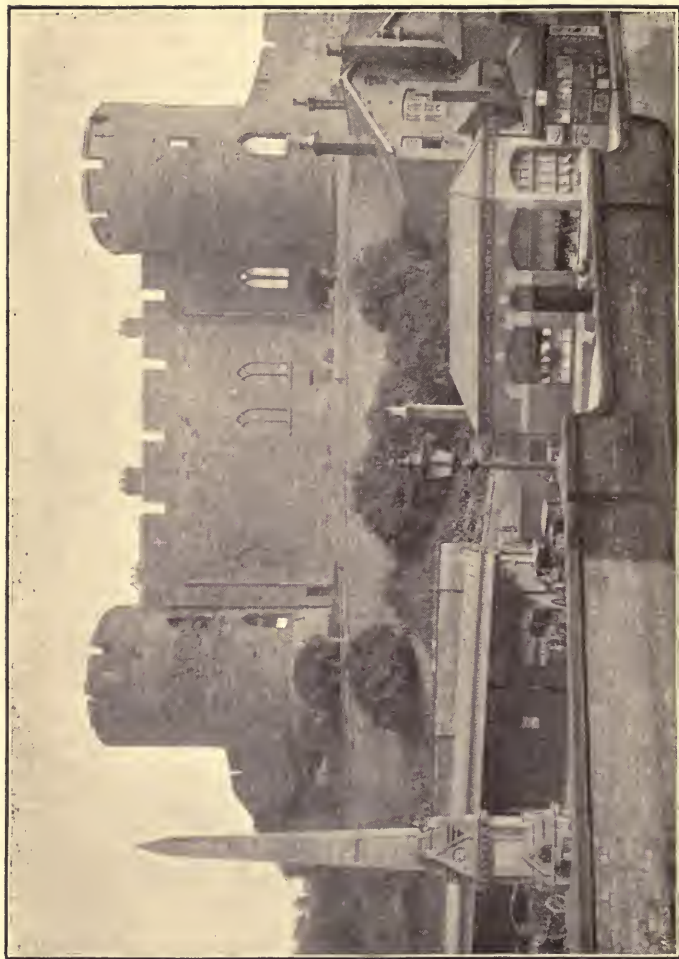
The Municipal History of Shrewsbury runs far back into antiquity. It may, however, be summed up briefly. It is a Corporation by prescription. Its charters bear the signatures of most of our English sovereigns, from

William the Norman down to James II. Under the Municipal Reform Act of 1835, it was divided into five Wards, each of which returned six Councillors with two Aldermen, and these constituted the Town Council. In the year 1891, however, by an order of Privy Council, there was a rearrangement of the Wards, to render them more consistent with the present numbers and distribution of the electorate. There are now ten Wards, each of which returns three Councillors. The Borough has sent members to Parliament from the very beginning of Parliaments; and for centuries it returned, with but few omissions, two representatives to the national Council. By the Re-distribution of Seats Act, 1885, however, it was deprived of one of its members. Since then it has, of course, returned one member only. The population of the Borough has not varied very greatly during recent decades. At the census of 1881 it was returned at 26,481; while at the last, in 1891, it stood at 27,967—males being 12,712, and females 14,248; and the number of houses was stated as—inhabited, 5,600; uninhabited, 405; making a total of 6,005.









Sedgwick, Engraver, Blackfriars, London.

From Photo by J. Hudson, Published by Poulton & Son, London.

## SHREWSBURY CASTLE.



## A Round=about Ramble.

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**Y**ES: undoubtedly, the best way of consulting the convenience and pleasure of the Visitor and Stranger to our old Town, is to meet him immediately on his arrival, and accompany him through the more interesting and attractive of Salopian scenes, recalling such memories of the past and narrating such circumstances of the present as they may severally and variously suggest. That is what we, in the character of Guide, now purpose doing, gossiping on objects of historical and architectural interest as we ramble on, yet not loitering too long with any by the way. Starting, then, at

### THE SHREWSBURY RAILWAY STATION,

The visitor will probably be struck with (internally) its inadequacy and inconvenience. Formerly it may have been ample for the traffic passing through it, but now, so largely has that traffic increased, it is notoriously

unequal to the growing demands upon its resources; and it is greatly to be desired that the plans of extension and improvement said to be contemplated by the Joint Companies most concerned will ere long be carried out. The present buildings are of freestone, in Tudor Gothic; they comprise two storeys to the front, and are surmounted by a tower and clock. Externally, as viewed from the approach outside, the buildings have a certain air of importance that might fairly impress a stranger with the idea that their internal accommodation was of an equally respectable order, but that idea is not, as we have indicated, quite borne out by the facts. Quitting the perplexities of the place, therefore, not without some sense of relief, we outside pause a moment to note, not only the architectural pretension of the station itself, but the effigy and monument—to a former honoured citizen and parliamentary representative of Shrewsbury, Mr. William James Clement—occupying the centre of the station-yard, and also, high up on an over-shadowing rock to the left, the remains of what anciently was one of the strongest and most imposing of Norman fortresses along this Western border-land. This is

#### SHREWSBURY CASTLE.

Leaving the Station Yard, and turning to the left up Castle Gate, we ascend by the steps of "The Dana" (so-called after the gentleman who devised it), and a few paces to the right, enter the precincts of the Castle, now occupied as a private residence. From the very earliest times this rock, commanding as it does the otherwise undefended isthmus of the peninsula within which the town stands, has no doubt been fortified. Here, on the site of an old Saxon stronghold, the

fortunate Norman Baron, Roger de Montgomery, soon after the subjugation of the country by his great patron William the Norman, erected a strong fortress, his object being, of course, to keep a closer grip upon the broad and rich territories assigned to him by the Conqueror as his share of the spoil, and also to restrain the turbulent Welsh, who, with many of the dispossessed and discontented Saxons, still gave the invaders frequent and serious trouble. The place was held by descendants of its founder till the reign of Henry I., when it became a royal fortress, its defence being entrusted to a Constable (usually the Sheriff), and a part of its vast estate was parcelled out to various Knights, on the condition of their keeping castle-ward for a certain number of days each year. When, however, by the incorporation of Wales with the rest of the Kingdom, all apprehension of Cambrian incursions had vanished, the importance of the Castle as a fortress vanished also. With the abandonment of its old uses, and as the one-time urgent need of its maintenance as a defensive post disappeared, the anciently formidable stronghold fell into neglect and decay. Leland, who saw it in the reign of Henry VIII., describes it then as being "nowe much in ruine." In the time of the Civil War, however, it recovered somewhat of its ancient importance. Its crumbling walls were repaired and strengthened, its gates additionally fortified, and it was garrisoned for the King. After its treacherous surrender to the Parliamentary forces in 1645, as already noted, it escaped the general fate which so many similar buildings, as well as Churches, met with at the hands of the Cromwellian despoilers. After the Restoration, the property of the Castle was again vested in the Burgesses of Shrewsbury,

but by them it was soon again surrendered to the Crown. It was afterwards presented by Charles II. to Francis, Viscount Newport, ancestor of the Earls of Bradford. It still for a number of years retained some show of its former warlike stateliness, but by the middle of the eighteenth century it had lost almost all evidences of its former magnitude, and, undergoing the perhaps inevitable transformations and limitations consequent upon its later adaptation to modern residential purposes, it became gradually shorn of its mediæval baronial dignity, till now, despite the massive structure and commanding altitude of its two surviving round towers, it is difficult for the spectator to fully realise the extent and strength of the great feudal fortress which once crowned this hill and dominated the surrounding country. The portions now remaining are the two massive round towers of the ancient Keep, (*temp* Edward I.,) the walls of the inner court, an interior Norman arch, and a postern gate. The castle and grounds are now the property of Lord Barnard, as heir to the late Duke of Cleveland. In the garden, adjacent to the "watch tower," is the spot where Captain Benbow, as already stated, was shot in 1651 for alleged desertion of the Parliamentary cause and espousal of that of the King. In this garden for many years it was customary for the Knights of the Shire, on their election, to be girt with their swords by the Sheriff—a custom that now, in deference to the spirit of modern reform, finds more honour in the breach than in the observance. Ascending now the Mount and the Watch Tower, we gain a wide and very striking view of Shrewsbury and its surroundings—a view, indeed, of incomparable interest, richness, and beauty. To quote here the graphic



description of it given by the author of "An Account of Shrewsbury" (published in 1808), "Immediately below the spectator the Severn winds with great majesty. The eye,—after viewing awhile the town with its spires and turrets, the Free Schools" (now the Free Library and Museum), "The House of Industry" (now replaced by the imposing and spacious Shrewsbury Schools) "crowning the green eminence of Kingsland, and, on the other side, the extensive suburb of Abbey Foregate, with its venerable church,—is led to survey the most extensive amphitheatre of mountains which the island can boast. The Wrekin is connected by the gentle hills of Acton Burnell and Frodesley (over which the gigantic summit of the Brown Clee is conspicuous) with the Lawley and Caradoc, generally called the Stretton Hills; from whence the Longmynd, Stiperstones, and Long Mountain form an uninterrupted chain, with the bold and precipitous cliffs of Cefn-y-Castyll, Moel-y-Golfa, and Breidden, surmounted by an obelisk in honour of the late Lord Rodney:—thence the horizon is bounded by the stupendous Berwyn range, losing their blue summits in the clouds:—While the northern view is terminated by the humbler but beautiful eminences of Grinshill. Pymhill, Hawkstone, Haughmond, &c., round to the Wrekin:—the whole of this vast circle inclosing a finely wooded and beautifully diversified champaign country of gentle hill and dale, watered by various streams—eminently fertile both in arable and pasture—and amply justifying the eulogium of an ancient British poet, who, after gazing, as he tells us, on the plains of Shropshire from the height of Charlton Hill, calls it 'the Paradise of the Cymru!'"

Quitting the Castle precincts, and returning into Castle Gates, we next come to

### THE FREE LIBRARY AND MUSEUM,

for so the ancient buildings formerly occupied by the "Shrewsbury School" are now styled. These dignified and spacious buildings date from the middle of the fifteenth century, when, in gracious compliance with Salopian petition for a better public school than the town then possessed, King Edward the Sixth—honourably associated in name with so many other ancient educational endowments in different parts of the kingdom—"laid the foundation of a Shrewsbury School." It was endowed out of the whilom revenues of suppressed monastic and collegiate foundations, the tithes of Astley, Sansaw, Clive, Leaton, and Almond Park (the property of St. Mary's), with those of Frankwell, Betton, Woodcote, Horton, Bicton, Calcott, Shelton, Whitty, and Welbeck (belonging to St. Chad's), being appropriated to that purpose. In 1882, however, when the ancient educational foundation was transferred to a pleasanter and altogether more desirable situation upon Kingsland, beyond and overlooking the river, this old building, disused as a school, was converted into a Public Free Library and Museum. It stands substantially as it did of old, unaltered and intact, except in certain minor internal details necessary to adapt it to its new uses. It forms two sides of a quadrangle, with a tower at the angle. Over the main gateway—between the quaint effigies of a schoolboy and a graduate attired after the fashion of three centuries ago—may be noted a mural inscription in Greek, a quotation from Isocrates, to

the effect that "*If you love learning, you will be learned.*" Besides the Free Library, a valuable and interesting Museum (formed by inclusion of the collections of the Shropshire Archæological and Natural History Societies) has here found a suitable home, and has since been largely added to by private donors. Especial attention should be given by the visitor to the exceptionally interesting series of Borough Charters, and also to the old and well-preserved views here exhibited, some by Paul Danby, R.A., depicting the town as anciently existing, and its old-time Bridges with their embattled gates and towers.

Here is also a large and varied collection of Roman remains of all kinds from the ruins of Uriconium, the modern Wroxeter, about four miles south-east from Shrewsbury.

On the ground floor are the Library and the Public Reading or News Room, the latter being very largely availed of, not only by the burgesses, but by residents of the surrounding neighbourhood. The Library is open every working day and Bank Holiday, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., and from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. The Museum rooms are open daily (except Sundays, Good Friday, and Christmas-day)—from 10-30 a.m. to dusk during the winter months, and from 10-30 a.m. to 7-30 p.m. during the summer months. It is closed on Fridays (for cleaning) until 2 p.m., and at other special times by order of the Library and Museum Committee of the Town Council. The Museum and Library (not the Reading Room) are wholly closed to the public during the month of August in each year.

A little way higher in Castle Gate, on the left, stands an edifice of exceptional interest, and once of high importance in the social and legal activities of Shrewsbury and "The Welsh Marches." It is known still as

### THE COUNCIL HOUSE.

It must not, however, be confounded with modern ideas or uses of a Town Council, with which it has not and never had the least to do. Its name arises from the fact that it was anciently used as the occasional residence and court of the Lord President of the Marches of Wales. Although the principal seat of the Presidents was the Castle of Ludlow, they were accustomed to hold here a court one term in the year for the despatch of business affecting this district, as they did another usually at Bewdley, and occasionally at Hereford. There is reason to believe that the builder of the Council House was a Mr. Peter Newton, himself a member of the Marches Council, about the year 1500, and by him or his son subsequently conveyed to the family of Knight, by whom, again, it was granted to Sir Andrew Corbet, Knt., Vice-President of the Marches ; and it was probably from a member of the family of Corbet that the place, coming by grant to the Shrewsbury Town Council, was eventually appropriated as the residence of the Lord of the Marches on his yearly visit to the town. But the Town Council appear to have divested themselves of their interest in the property in 1583, and since then it has been held by various private owners. The buildings form three sides of a small court. They are approached by a picturesque old timbered gateway, said to have been

erected in 1620. They have been long converted into three separate dwellings. The great hall, with the chamber over the same, 50 ft. by 26 ft., remains substantially unmodernised. Many and imposing have been the scenes of solemn state and festal hospitality this old hall has witnessed. So long as the Court of the Marches was held here, it was the duty of the Corporation annually to meet and escort the President and his retinue with all civic pomp from the Town Gates to the Council House; and it was his lordship's frequent habit to recognise the honour so done him and his office by entertaining the Corporation at sumptuous feasting. And besides these exchanges of corporate and presidential courtesies, these buildings have witnessed more sumptuous and stately entertainments when royalty has been host or guest. Sir Henry Sydney (father of the hero of Zutphen) held his court here as President of the Marches between the years 1558 and 1586. Charles the First, in the early days of the Great Rebellion, of which later he was the unhappy victim, made it his temporary residence. His Majesty stayed here with his two sons and nephew (Prince Rupert) for a short time in 1642, and it was probably here that occurred the memorable incident anent the refusal by the burgesses of the King's offer to make their borough a city that won for them ever afterwards the epithet of "proud." The last royal or distinguished personage who sojourned at the Council House was King James II., who, in 1687, held his court here, and was attended, with no little pomp, by the Mayor and Corporation and the Noblemen and Gentlemen of the county. The last visit of the Council of the Marches was in 1683—four years before the visit of King James—when the



Lord President (Duke of Beaufort) with Lord Newport and Chief Justice Jones, attended with all the pomp and ceremonial customary on such occasions. The Court of the Marches was dissolved in the first year of William and Mary, it being then declared to be "a great grievance to the subject," and "an intolerable burden to Wales and the Borders at all times."

Before leaving this spot, it may be of interest to recall the fact that the New Presbyterian Church, closely adjoining the Council House Gate, occupies the site of an ancient chapel dedicated to St. Nicholas—an edifice that probably dated from the days that saw the erection of the chapel of St. Michael, within the Castle precincts, by the great baron Roger de Montgomery. Undoubtedly a building of great antiquity, it had latterly fallen from its sacred to very base uses, and was even occupied as a stable prior to its final demolition.

Resuming our way up Castle Street, and entering the first turning on the left (opposite the Raven Hotel) we come in sight of St. Mary's Church and the General Infirmary. But before noticing more particularly either of these, let us glance at the narrow lane which on our left leads down to the Severn. This is

#### ST. MARY'S WATER GATE,

And it was along this lane and through the Gate at its foot, that, on a February night in the year 1644-5, a Parliamentary force, under the command of Colonels Mytton and Bowyer, secretly and by treachery entered and captured the town almost without striking a blow.



Only seven men and one officer are said to have fallen in the affair, which resulted in depriving King Charles of one of his principal strongholds in the West, and placing all its munitions, forces, and advantages at the disposal of his rebel enemies.

Here, too, in the open space between the head of Water-gate and the Infirmary anciently stood a Dominican Friary. At the dissolution of the monasteries, in the reign of Henry VIII, the "rooks" were dispersed and their "nest" dismantled. It was in this priory that two sons of Edward IV.—Richard and George Plantagenet—are said to have been born. Here, too, it was that many of the more distinguished persons who fell at the Battle of Shrewsbury were interred.

### ST. MARY'S CHURCH

Was anciently a "collegiate," and is believed to have been founded by King Edgar, though probably upon the site of a precedent Church destroyed by the Danes. In the time of Edward the Confessor the landed estates of this Church consisted of twenty hides, or two thousand four hundred acres, of which ten were in Burtune (probably Broughton, near Sansaw), Heslie (Astley), Mitton in the parish of Fittes, besides half a hide in the Hundred of Overs, and a virgate in the Manor of Meole. These possessions it retained until the reign of William the Conqueror, but, soon after his seizure of the crown, it was despoiled of a large portion of them. In the reign of Henry VIII. its yearly revenues (according to Dugdale) were only £13 1s. 8d. in the money of that period, while, according to another survey

in the same reign, the yearly revenues were £32 4s. 2d. On the suppression of the College in the succeeding reign (Edward VI.) the greater part of the tithes were given to the newly-founded Shrewsbury School. Of the old College there are no existing remains, nor is it known at this day where exactly it was located. The Church is cruciform, with a singularly graceful tower and spire—216 feet in height, and one of the highest in England. Happily it has escaped much of the meddling and mauling that has been the ruin of too many of our old ecclesiastical buildings. Architecturally, the Church presents examples of almost every development of Gothic, and thus graphically illustrates the different phases of its growth and history. The interior is spacious, dignified, and impressive. Its very silence is eloquent of centuries; a hoar and holy antiquity seems here enshrined. The great window which terminates the Chancel, and which occupies the place of one destroyed during a hurricane in 1571, contains in its lower divisions the magnificent glass which once filled the chancel window of Old St. Chad's, and which escaped the sudden ruin which befell that ancient edifice as described elsewhere. It represents the Stem of Jesse, or genealogy of Christ, and comprises some forty or fifty figures. Jesse is represented at the bottom as in a deep sleep, and from his loins issues the vine, branching upward. Three of the compartments, originally ranged below the genealogy, still remain, two of them nearly perfect, and containing figures of warriors in armour, each kneeling under a beautiful foliated tabernacle. The whole of the painted window glass in this Church merits very careful examination. The great east window is especially noteworthy both for its magnitude and its

beauty. The glass here is not only very ancient but artistically of a high order, displaying combinations of colour whose sweetness, chasteness, and tenderness is in pleasant contrast with too much that is crude and glaring in many modern attempts at ecclesiastical glass-painting. There is a particularly fine triple-lancet window in the north aisle, containing illustrations of incidents in the life of St. Bernard. The glass of this was brought from the Church of St. Severin, at Cologne, where it had long lain neglected after rescue from the spoliation of the Abbey of Altenburg.

The Pulpit, singularly chaste, artistic, and appropriate in design, merits careful examination. It was designed by Mr. S. P. Smith, of Shrewsbury. It is of Caen and fine Grinshill stone, and consists of five sides of an irregular octagon, three sides having sculptured panels, two being niches for figures. The subjects in the panels are "the Nativity," "the Crucifixion," and "the Ascension;" these were the work of the celebrated sculptor Richardson. The architectural portion of the carving was executed by Mr. George Landucci, of Shrewsbury.

St. Mary's contains several tombs of considerable antiquity. In the spacious and strikingly beautiful "Trinity" chapel on the south side of the chancel, is an ancient stone altar-tomb, bearing the recumbent mutilated figure of a cross-legged Knight in linked armour, supposed by some to be that of Hotspur, but with greater probability alleged to be that of one of the Laybornes or Leybournes, Lords of Berwick in the 14th century. It is to be noted that the crossing of

the legs indicates that their owner had in life either shared in the Crusades or had made a pilgrimage to Jerusalem. In the present instance the attitude may be accounted for by the circumstance that this Leybourne of Berwick chanced in a tournament at Worcester to mortally wound a young nobleman — one of the Mortimers of Wigmore,—and it is presumed that it was in expiation of this unhappy fatality he made a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. In the little north Chapel, placed upright against the wall under a small window, is an alabaster slab whereon are boldly graven two full-size figures, male and female, the male in armour, and both in the attitude of prayer: they represent Nicholas Stafford, Esq., and his wife, and date from the middle of the 15th century. Close by, in the same Chapel, is a memorial to that famous Salopian hero and “true patterne of English courage” and “skilled and daring seaman,”—Admiral Benbow, who, it will be remembered, died at Kingston, Jamaica, in 1702, from wounds received in his prolonged and glorious fight with the French fleet off Carthagen. At the west end of the church, within the fine oak screen separating the small area under the tower from the nave, is a monument and statue (the figure seated) of the late Dr. Butler, some time Head Master of Shrewsbury School, and afterwards Bishop of Lichfield, who died in 1844, and was interred on the western side of the churchyard here. It is a pity that a better site for so fine a monument in memory of so great a scholar and so able a Bishop has not been found. Opposite this monument is one to the memory of another distinguished Salopian—Colonel Cureton, who, as this memorial sets forth, fell in an engagement with the Sikhs at Ramnugger, in November, 1848.

The Royal Arms that, in gilt relief, adorn the west inner wall of the tower, formerly occupied a more prominent position in front of a small gallery that once disfigured the west end of the nave. In the nave is a tablet to the memory of James Burney, organist of this Church, who died, aged 80, in 1789, and whose younger brother was father of Madame D'Arblay, the celebrated authoress of "Evelina" and "Cecilia." On the west wall of the Tower is an inscription to the memory of a Robert Cadman, who, in 1840, lost his life in an attempt to descend from the top of the spire (to which he had re-affixed the vane) by means of a rope attached to it and carried thence to a field on the opposite side of the river ; but, the rope breaking, the mad adventurer fell, in presence of a large crowd of spectators, into St. Mary's Friars, near the present Water-gate, and was thus killed upon the spot.

### THE SALOP INFIRMARY

Was established in the year 1745, and was one of the earliest of its kind in the kingdom. It originally appropriated to its philanthropic uses a mansion on this site erected by Corbet Kynaston, Esq., but as its needs grew, the premises were found too limited, and in 1827, they were pulled down to make way for the present stately and commodious structure, which was opened in 1830. Although, unavoidably, the view of the elevation from the St. Mary's side is somewhat marred by its limitations, the prospect towards the country on the side commanding the Severn and views of the Abbey and English Bridge and the suburbs beyond, with the Wrekin in the remoter distance, is one of singular



variety and beauty. The institution, replete with every appliance for the relief of human disease and suffering, is maintained by voluntary subscriptions and benefactions, local Physicians and Surgeons of Shrewsbury gratuitously devoting to it their valuable services. It is managed by eight Directors, annually elected from among the Trustees, their executive official being the Secretary, who receives a salary of £100 a year. The anniversary is held in what is known locally as "the Hunt Week"—or perhaps we ought more correctly to say that the Hunt Ball is held on the night of the Infirmary Anniversary—in each year, when, in accordance with a custom worthy of all honour and observance, the nobility and gentry of town and county assemble in large numbers, and, after the business meeting, accompany the newly-elected Treasurer to Church, where a sermon is preached and a collection made on behalf of the funds of the Institution. It has long been a pretty custom at these services for the collection to be made by some young lady and gentleman, usually of our county aristocracy, standing, each with a "plate," in the vestibule. For many years St. Chad's was the Church attended on these occasions, but, owing to some objection raised by a late vicar of that Church as to the mode in which the collections were made, St. Julian's has latterly been the scene of the distinguished and charitable gathering.

In St. Mary's Street, opposite the Church, stand

#### THE ALMS HOUSES,

Built of brick and forming three sides of a quadrangle. The entrance is by a central gate, over which are



the armorial bearings of the Company, with the motto "Unto God only be honour and glory." Here are 18 dwellings. The occupants receive also an annuity of £10 with fuel and clothing. The charity was originally founded, certainly prior to 1468, some allege by King Edward VI., but more likely by the Drapers' Company. The buildings were re-erected in their present style in 1825.

At the corner of St. Mary's Street and Pride Hill is

### THE POST OFFICE,

Occupying the site of the old Butter Market, and adjacent to the spot where anciently stood the High Cross, and whereabout was enacted many a tragic and stirring episode in Salopian history. The present commodious Post Office was erected by Government in 1876, and opened for public business the year following. It is modern modified Gothic in style, and is an elegant and substantial structure. On the ground floor is the public office, 36 ft. by 21 ft., fronting Pride Hill, where is the principal entrance. The Post-master's Room and the Sorting-office occupy the second story facing St. Mary's Street. The top floor is occupied by the Telegraph Department, the instrument room being a spacious apartment lighted from a large central lantern-light in the roof. The cost of the buildings, including office fittings, was £8,300. The site, sold by the Corporation to the Government, cost £1,200. Shrewsbury being a postal centre of considerable importance, a very large amount of correspondence passes through this office, and a large staff is employed.

Retracing a few steps along St. Mary's Street, and following a short narrow thoroughfare known as Church Street, we should note on our left, in St. Alkmond's Square, a fine old half-timbered "black and white" mansion—a portion of what originally was the residence of Mr. T. Jones, who, according to his monument in the adjoining Church of St. Alkmond, was "six times Bailiff, and First Mayor of Shrewsbury." The place is historically interesting as having been the lodging of the Duke of York when, in 1642, he accompanied his father King Charles I. on his visit to Shrewsbury. It was also the residence for a short time of Prince Rupert when he rejoined his royal uncle here after the Battle of Worcester.

#### ST. ALKMOND'S

is of great antiquity and interest. The original foundation is ascribed to Elfleda, daughter of Offa, the powerful king of Mercia. Afterwards King Edgar, by the advice of his great prelate Dunstan, established in it ten priests, for whose maintenance he bestowed rich prebends in land. It was in a flourishing state at the Conquest. It was, however, effectually disendowed, if not disestablished, about a century later, when the then Dean (Richard de Belmeys), in excess of zeal for the enrichment of the newly-founded Abbey of Lilleshall, surrendered, by consent of the Pope and King Stephen, the whole of its estates to that Augustinian institution, which had been likewise dedicated to St. Alkmond. The once rich Collegiate Church thus sank into a poor vicarage. In 1795, the parishioners, warned by the disastrous fate of Old St. Chad's, determined to entirely pull down their own "ancient, handsome, curious, and

substantial church," and to erect a new one. The existing edifice is the result. It is whispered that in certain quarters there is a desire to see this Church "disparished," and given over to uses as "a church-house" for assemblies of the local clergy, but whether the parishioners will ever be persuaded to look upon it as superfluous and be prevailed upon to consent to lose the distinctive character and centre of their of their parish as a parish, is more than doubtful.

### ST. JULIAN'S,

Close by, may be conveniently glanced at now. This Church, though much modernised in a style that in some aspects is hardly so congruous and harmonious as one would like to see, and concealing much of what is really very ancient, dates far back into Saxon times, but when or by whom it was founded is not known. Whatever may have been its original endowments, they would seem to have been by Henry V. diverted to the church at Battlefield, which his father had founded. St. Julian's then became a mere stipendiary curacy. In 1750 the church was wholly re-built, though some few portions of the old building were retained, particularly the tower, and in the east wall is preserved a small effigy of a female, supposed to represent the patroness of the church—St. Juliana. From the time of its re-building down to its more intelligent restoration in 1883—84, this church must have presented a strange mixture of architectural incongruities and even absurdities; but, fortunately, local taste had improved in the interval, and alterations then effected remedied its old disfigure-

ments and inconveniences. There are several stained glass windows, admirable in design and colour, and a number of mural monuments in the aisles and chancel.

Passing from St. Julian's along Fish Street (where hangs the sign of "The Three Fishes," significant of the ancient cognizance of the Abbots of Lilleshall, who had a town residence hereabout) and where once was held a little local fish market, we now, leaving St. Alkmond's Square on our right, enter

### BUTCHER ROW,

where, on either hand, are survivals of some of the more antique dwellings in Shrewsbury, several highly imposing even in their decadence, and all combining to make up, from different points of view, "bits" which the lover of the picturesque, if he be also a devotee of the camera, will be strongly tempted to have a "snap shot" at! The oak-timbered buildings to the left, as we look towards Pride Hill, remain much the same as they were when first erected; they are of a substantial, not to say massive, style of domestic Tudor, with plenty of carved ornamentation about their door jambs, cornices, and gables. It is believed that here the Chantry Priests of the Holy Cross at St. Alkmond's had their habitation, and that here, too, was the town residence of the Abbot of Lilleshall. Of course the modern name of this passage arises from the circumstance of its having been for many years occupied by the Shrewsbury butchers, until they were





Sedgwick, Engraver, Blackfriars, London.

THE SQUARE.

From Photo by J. Laing, Shrewsbury.



relegated to other more suitable premises in the New Market Hall.

Quitting the Row by a narrow passage distinguished by the name of "Grove-lane," we emerge into High Street, and note on the opposite side of it a place of public worship known as "High Street Church," although it is really a Unitarian Chapel, and was originally founded in 1662 by the Independents; but it is chiefly noteworthy as having once had for a brief while as its Minister no less a celebrity than the author of "Christabel" and "The Ancient Mariner." But, the "shackles of preachiership" did not suit Coleridge.

Next is the Square—a central open space where are located some of the principal shops, offices, and public edifices of the town,—and here is

### THE SHIRE AND GUILD HALL,

Which occupies the site of the ancient Town Hall—described as a "large, strong timber building with a high clock turret,"—and was erected in 1837, from designs by Sir Robert Smirk. Its cost was £12,000, raised by a county-rate. On the 9th of November, 1880, the whole of the interior of the building was destroyed by fire. It was, however, speedily restored with such liberality, judgment, and success that, on the holding of the first assizes in the new courts, Mr. Baron Huddleston characterised them as being, if not the best, certainly among the best Law Courts in the Kingdom. The Hall has a handsome stone exterior in the so-called Italian style. Its internal accommodation is spacious, elaborate, and complete. On the ground floor, entered by a fine

vestibule are two well-appointed law courts,—one of them being also used as a place of meeting for the Shrewsbury Corporation and the Shropshire County Council,—and a noble room called the Grand Jury Room, where hang several noteworthy portraits, including those of General Lord Hill, the late Sir Baldwin Leighton, Bart., the Hon. T. Kenyon (for many years Chairman of Shropshire Quarter Sessions), and Alfred Salwey, Esq. (formerly Chairman of Quarter Sessions, and subsequently Chairman of the Shropshire County Council). In different parts of the roomy edifice, as allocated under agreement between the authorities severally representing the County and Borough, are the offices of the Clerk of the Peace for the County, the Town Clerk for the Borough, the Clerk to the County Council, the Organising Secretary for Technical Instruction, and the Clerk of Committees of the Town Council, besides other offices and committee-rooms. Adjoining to and connected with the Shire Hall are the County Police Offices.

#### THE OLD MARKET HOUSE,

Occupying the southern portion of the Square, is a fine example of an ancient "Booth-hall." It was erected in 1596. The basement is an arcade, under which the corn market was formerly held. In the centre of the principal front, facing west, are the arms of Queen Elizabeth, under a rich canopy, with the date of the building's completion. Over the northern end is a canopied niche, within which is a carved effigy, alleged to be that of Richard, Duke of York (father of Edward IV.), removed hither in 1791 from the Tower of the old Welsh Bridge. Over the arch at the south, in a similar

niche, is the figure of an angel, bearing a shield with the arms of France and England, brought hither from the outer gate of the Castle, on its demolition in 1825. Here also, high up on the wall, is an ancient sun-dial, its gilt numerals almost obliterated. The upper portion of the building is now used as a Borough Police Court, and here are offices for certain of the Corporation's officials, namely, the Borough Surveyor, the Financial Clerk, and the Sanitary Inspectors.

### WORKING MEN'S HALL,

Situate at the south-east corner of the Square, was erected in the year 1863, from designs by Mr. J. L. Randal, of Shrewsbury, at a cost of £3,200. Here is a large lecture hall; also a public refreshment room, open daily.

### THE MUSIC HALL BUILDINGS

Have their main entrance from the Square, immediately opposite the south end of the Market-house. They were erected in 1840. The large concert hall is 90 feet long by 42 feet wide, and is 38 feet high. There is an orchestra at the south end, with seating for a chorus of 150, while the body of the hall is capable of seating some 600 persons. Here is also a very handsome-looking organ, presented to the Choral Society by the late Rev. R. Scott, B.D., many years ago; but, whatever may have been its quality and tone originally, now-a-days it stands useless and mute—useless, at any rate, except as an imposing piece of ornamental furniture. The rest of the building is divided into lesser convenient rooms, used for exhibitions, meetings, and committees.

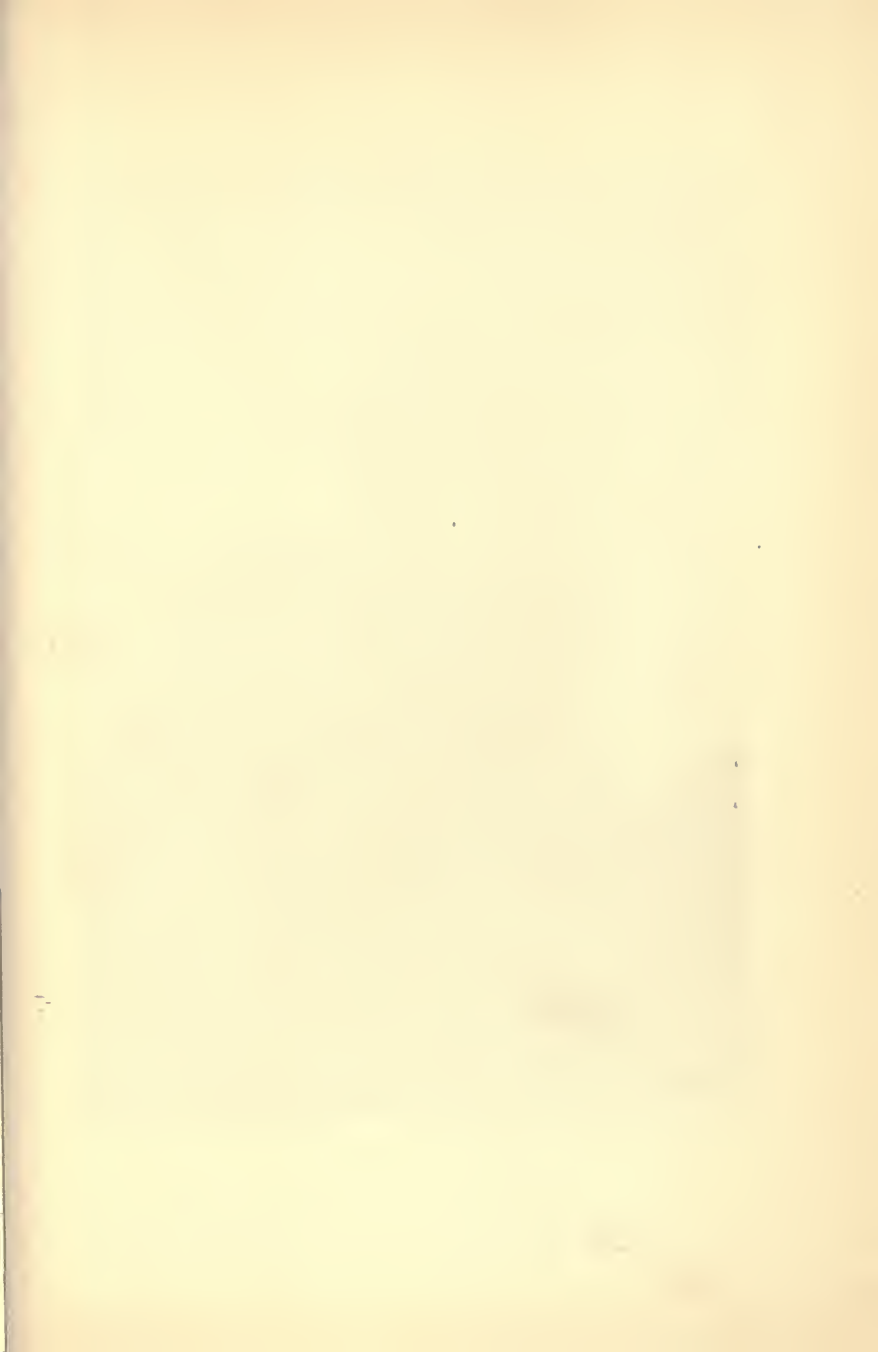
Parties desiring the use of the Hall or lesser rooms may obtain all information by applying to the Secretary, Mr. V. C. L. Crump.

Closely adjacent, in Market Street, is the old BOROUGH POLICE STATION, but this will soon be vacated, and the staff, offices, and business transferred to the new and more convenient buildings now (1893) nearing completion on Swan-hill—the first street to the left below the present offices.

### LORD CLIVE'S STATUE

Occupies a worthily prominent position at the north end of the Square. It is of bronze, on a pedestal of polished Penrhyn granite, and is the work of Baron Marochetti. It was erected in 1860, and cost about £2,000, collected through the instrumentality of a metropolitan and nationally representative committee. Lord Clive, it is needless to say, shares with Warren Hastings the glory of winning for England her mighty Empire of India. He was not only a Shropshire man, but intimately associated with Shrewsbury, he having been its Mayor in 1768, and having sat in Parliament as one of its representatives from 1761 to 1774.

Hereabout, the buildings that overlook the Square and occupy the line of the High Street close by, possess, architecturally, features so varied, so elegant, so substantial, and so picturesque, as to constitute a scene such as few other provincial towns in the country can show. On the one hand are the stately County Buildings (or Shire and Guild Hall), and on the other the County Club, and the large drapery establishment of Messrs.





*Sedgwick, Engraver, Blackfriars, London.*

*From Photo by Frith, Reigate.*

*NEW MARKET HALL.*



Harding & Co., with the Old Salop Bank at the corner, while opposite are to be particularly noted the new and strikingly ornate offices of the Alliance and Salop Insurance Company, and the extensive premises of Messrs. Maddox and Co., a portion of these last (erected in 1592) being remarkable externally as among the best preserved examples of the old "black and white" timbered edifices that even Salopian street architecture can boast. On the opposite side of the street, stands the famous

### IRELAND'S MANSION,

Four stories high, with four projecting ranges of bow-windows, terminating in high pointed gables, and ornamented with curious carved work. The main street entrance has a fine Tudor archway. The Mansion was anciently, when Salopia's aristocracy were content to dwell within the walls of Salopia's capital, the residence of the Irelands of Albrighton, whose arms are still to be seen blazoned upon its front.

Passing into Pride Hill (so called from a residence of the Pride family anciently situate here), and descending towards Mardol Head, we arrive at

### THE NEW MARKET HALL & CORN EXCHANGE.

Extensive in the area it covers, imposing in its magnitude, convenient and comprehensive in its plan, and of no mean merit in architectural style, these buildings will compare favourably with those for like purposes in other of our more important provincial towns. They were erected by the Corporation in 1869, from

designs by Mr. Griffiths, of Stafford, and entailed what, by many, was deemed an excessive outlay, upwards of £60,000 being expended upon them before they were finished. On the ground-floor is an arcade, a separate section appropriated to the use of the butchers and their stalls, and a spacious hall for the sale of vegetables, fruit, poultry, &c. Above is the Corn Exchange, a lofty spacious room, 90 feet by 45 feet. A square and elegant tower, 150 feet in height, dominates the whole edifice, and contains a large four-dial clock. The markets are held on Wednesdays and Saturdays; and butter, cheese, and bacon fairs are held monthly.

#### THE THEATRE ROYAL,

In "Shop-latch," opposite the south-eastern angle of the Market Hall, and occupying the site of the ancient mansion of the Lords of Powis, was erected in 1834 by Mr. Bennett, of Worcester. It is classic in style, and niches in its front elevation contain figures of Shakspeare, and of Tragedy and Comedy. Mrs. Maddox is proprietress, and Mr. W. H. Maddox manager.

#### BELLSTONE,

Or, as anciently called, "Bente Stone," lies between St. John's Hill and Barker Street, opposite the Market Hall; the buildings were erected in 1582, by Alderman Edward Owen, of Shrewsbury. They have been considerably modernised, and are now occupied as a branch of the National Provincial Bank of England.

#### ROWLEY'S MANSION

Is a fine old picturesque Tudor mansion in Hill's Lane, between Barker Street and Mardol. It is believed to

date from 1618, and to have been built by a wealthy brewer named William Rowley. No doubt, a residence of such importance must originally have been surrounded by considerable private grounds, but now, sadly dilapidated and shorn of its ancient glory, what remains of it is used as a furniture store and auction mart, and it is closely surrounded by narrow lanes of meaner dwellings, many of them in similarly picturesque decadence.

### THE AUSTIN FRIARS

Presents a remnant only of the old Friars Eremites of St. Augustine that once occupied a large space between this point and the Quarry. The land whereon the Friary and its Church stood was given to the Augustinian Order here by Henry III. about the middle of the thirteenth century.

### THE WELSH BRIDGE,

Which we now approach—a strongly-built and handsomely designed structure of five arches—was erected in 1795, at a cost of £8,000, half of which sum was contributed by the town. It is 266 feet long and 30 feet wide. Anciently, at the Mardol end of the old Bridge, was a massive embattled tower, destroyed in 1770. Over and from this bridge radiate the roads leading from Shrewsbury into Wales. It forms the entrance also from the main town into the “Welsh” suburb of Frankwell, where still survive several exceptionally old and fine examples of our “black and white” timbered houses.

## ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH

Is in this suburb. It is Early English in style ; but it is not ancient, nor has it otherwise any features of special architectural or historic interest.

## MILLINGTON'S HOSPITAL

Occupies a commanding eminence at the extremity of Frankwell. It was founded in 1734 by Mr. James Millington, a draper of the town, who endowed it largely, and its present income is stated to be £1,000 per annum, under the management of trustees.

## THE MOUNT,

on the Holyhead Road and overlooking the Severn, is, irrespective of its own attractions and the scenic beauties it commands, chiefly noteworthy for having been the birth-place and long the residence of the famous naturalist and philosopher, Charles Darwin, the author of "The Origin of Species."

## THE MILITARY DEPÔT

(or Barracks) of the 53rd (Shropshire) Regiment is situate at Copthorne, about a mile from the centre of the town.

## SHELTON OAK

Still stands—a venerable weather-worn relic of departed years and greatness—in what are now the private grounds of a residence called Shelton Priory, though why "priory"





Sedgwick, Engraver, Blackfriars, London.

From Photo by Frith, Reigate.

SHREWSBURY SCHOOL FROM THE SEVERN.



it is hard to divine, seeing that it never really was one. The grand old tree is hollow at its base, and so capacious that it might seat a dozen persons inside it. The story is, that from its branches the Welsh prince Owen Glyndwr watched the progress of the battle fought at Haghmon, in July, 1403, when Henry IV. utterly routed the Percies and their following with tremendous slaughter. But that Glyndwr and his forces were dallying ingloriously here within sight of a conflict so sanguinary and so decisive, is, however, discredited by fuller and better historic information, it being now pretty clear that the Welsh leader was otherwise sufficiently busy against his enemies in South Wales at the very time when he was supposed to have been perched in his secure watch-tower of the Shelton Oak. Still, as a matter of poetic and legendary association it is unquestionably pleasant, in presence of this hoary veteran of the woods, to picture the Welsh Chieftain in its leafy summit, with his wild, motley followers gathered idly around below him, cursing, perhaps, the swollen river which interposed impassably between them and the battle!

Returning towards the town, it will be convenient here to diverge a little from the more direct way, in order to visit, *en passant*,

#### THE SHREWSBURY SCHOOL,

Which occupies the site of a former building known as the House of Industry. The School, which, as already stated, was founded in the reign of Edward VI., and originally occupied the buildings in Castle Gates, now

converted into the Free Library and Museum, was transferred hither in 1882. The School has a distinguished history, and many men famous in various departments of learning and affairs have been educated here. To enumerate all would be impossible, but such names as Wycherley, George Sandys (the great traveller), Lord Brooke, Sir Fulke Greville, Sir Philip Sidney (the Hero of Zutphen and a poet of repute), Judge Jeffreys, Charles Darwin, Sir Thomas Jones (a Judge in the time of Charles II. and James II.), George Saville (Marquis of Halifax), Viscount Cranbrook, Mr. Cecil Raikes (late Postmaster-General), Sir W. Jenner (Physician to Her Majesty), General Phayre, Mr. Thomas Wright (the antiquarian), Mr. Vernon Hugo, Mr. Robert Richardson, and Mr. Horatio Nelson (three members of the Council of India), Chief Justice May, Dr. Morgan (the eminent physician), Sir George Osborne Morgan, Dr. Thompson (Archbishop of York), Dr. Fraser (Bishop of Manchester), Professor Munro, F. A. Paley, R. Shilleto, Professor Mayer, and Professor H. B. Kennedy, bear brilliant testimony to the high position it holds among the great schools of England. It attained very high eminence between 1798 and 1836, during which period it had the advantage of being ruled by masters distinguished as Dr. Butler (afterwards Bishop of Lichfield) and Dr. Kennedy (referred to by Thomas Carlyle as "Kennedy of Cambridge, afterwards great as master of Shrewsbury School"); and in 1868, by the Public Schools Act, it was legislatively recognised as one of the seven great public schools of the kingdom. The appointment of head and second master rests with the Fellows of St. John's College, Cambridge. The present headmaster is the Rev. Prebendary W. H. Moss, M.A.

The school proper is a fine edifice of brick, with a central tower, and overlooks the Severn, the Quarry grounds, the town, and a wide range of delightful landscape. It has ample accommodation for over 300 boys. The masters' residences are detached, yet closely adjacent. The grounds are spacious and beautifully laid out and kept; and include racquet and ball courts, and cricket and football fields, some eleven acres in extent; there is also a large swimming bath, and, on the river side, a convenient boat-house for the use of the boys fond of rowing. A school regatta and athletic sports are held annually. The Library has a large and valuable collection of books, manuscripts, &c.

In close proximity to the School, and in fact within the area of its grounds, stands the KENNEDY MEMORIAL CHAPEL, the cost of which (£7,000) was defrayed by Old Salopians and other friends who desired thus to provide a lasting memorial of Dr. Kennedy, the school's former distinguished head master.

### THE ANCIENT SHREWSBURY SHOW.

It was on these lands, now occupied by the buildings and grounds of Shrewsbury School and the elegant villa residences round about, that anciently was annually celebrated with much feasting and junketing, on "the day of Corpus Christi—the feast of the Holy Sacrament or body of our Lord"—what was known far and wide as "Shrewsbury Show"—an occasion when certain of the guilds and incorporated companies of the town (sixteen in number) held high festival, marching hither (after attending mass at St. Chad's Church) in procession, each company headed by its "King" in "regal" guise on

horseback, and attended with much gaudy display of regalia, banners, emblematic devices, and music, to their several pavilions or "arbours," where they regaled themselves and their friends, including the Bailiff or Mayor and members of the Corporation, in right hospitable style. The feasting and amusements lasted three days. The burgesses themselves likewise kept "open-house" for all comers during the festival, laying out their tables, sumptuously furnished, in front of their own dwellings, in the open air—weather permitting, and we must assume, in view of such jovial customs, that English weather in those good old times, when England won her enviable epithet of "merry," was more genial than it is, as a rule, in these degenerate days! But, like most other good things, the festival or "show" was abused, or at any rate misused, and so, from bad to worse, degenerated until, finally, it was suppressed, and Shrewsbury's streets witnessed its parade and pageant no more. The "arbours," purchased by the Corporation, were cleared away, and the ground appropriated to other more useful and profitable, though probably less entertaining purposes. The ornate entrance or portico that once adorned one of these curious guild "arbours"—that of the Shoemakers—is now located in the Quarry "Dingle," where it forms quite an interesting relic of picturesque antiquity.

Descending the declivity from the Schools to the Severn, and passing on our left the very elegant, commodious, and well-appointed Boathouse of the PENGWERN BOAT CLUB—and, beyond this, the Old Boathouse Inn, quaint and picturesque—we cross the river at the "School Ferry," and enter





*Sedgwick, Engraver, Blackfriars, London.*

*From Photo by Frith, Reigate.*

*IN THE QUARRY, BY THE SEVERN.*



## THE QUARRY,

Which, with its varied aspects, wide undulating green-sward, ornamental grounds, and magnificent umbrageous avenues—is undeniably one of the most beautiful and delightful public parks in England. Lying pleasantly between the partly circling river and the line of the ancient town-walls, it has been a place, wholly or in part, appropriated to the use, diversion, or recreation of the burgesses of Shrewsbury from time immemorial. It now comprises an area of upwards of twenty-three acres. The earliest glimpse we get of the condition of these lands lying between the old town walls and the river, and between the two bridges, is that they were “common”; but in very early times they were gradually appropriated to freeholders and enclosed, though a portion, lying nearest the Welsh Bridge, appears always to have been reserved for the use of the burgesses, and here it was, no doubt, that, under the name of “The Quarrel” or “Dry Quarry,” a place was set apart for the open-air performance of miracle plays and for popular amusements, including, it is said, bear and bull-baiting—popular amusements with Englishmen in bygone days. The name originally assigned to this particular portion of the waste ground, “Behind the Walls,” gradually became applied to the whole area as now existing. As to the origin of the name—“The Quarry”—divers derivations have been suggested for it, one party finding its source in an ancient British or Celtic word, “quare” or “chwarae,” signifying “a place of play”; and another party contenting themselves with the supposition that it simply comes to us from the circumstance that here was formerly a “quarry,” whence a soft

red sandstone was dug for use in the buildings of the town when other more durable material could not conveniently or safely be obtained from places more remote. However, "The Quarry" it long has been, is, and, we trust, will still be for ages yet to come. When, in the seventeenth century, it was resolved to improve the grounds for public use and pleasure, the different private rights of individuals to plots within it were bought up by the Bailiff and Corporation, in trust for the burgesses, but among these individual owners there appears to have been one who declined to come to terms and yield possession of his allotment, and thus it happens that there is still, almost in the middle of the grounds, a plot of land, sixteen yards square, and marked by a rough grey boulder stone at its centre, the freehold of which is vested, by descent, in the family of Harley, of Rossall, to whose representative the Corporation of Shrewsbury still pay an annual rent or acknowledgment of 4/6. The grand avenues of limes—than which there are no finer in Europe, not even those of the famed "Unter den Linden!"—were laid out and planted by the Corporation, as trustees of the Burgesses, in the year 1719. Originally, the avenues were of greater extent than they now are, being continued along the whole of the southern boundary, where now runs the wall of St. Chad's terrace; but, in the days—now happily past!—of civic vandalism and disregard both of public rights and sylvan beauty, many of the trees were ruthlessly cut down. Since then, and especially in 1879, every effort has been made to repair the mischief so done. Within a comparatively recent period the grounds have been brought, by great outlay, excellent taste, and unremitting care, to their present

state of perfection and beauty ; and for the attainment of this result the thanks of the town are equally due to the Corporation and the Shropshire Horticultural Society, the exceptional magnitude, splendour, and success of whose annual Shows, held in the grounds on two days in August, has, from its large surplusses, enabled its management, with public-spirited liberality, to assist in improving and beautifying it greatly, and particularly in erecting the new Lodge for the superintendent, the elegant Band Stand, the new ornamental entrance gates, and levelling and railing the banks of the river within the Quarry limits.

At the bottom of the Central Avenue stands a statue of HERCULES. It is a copy, in lead, of the Farnese Hercules, and was cast at Rome. How it came to England we do not know, but for about a century and a half it stood in front of Condover Hall, in this county ; thence, in 1804, being bought by a Shrewsbury plumber, it was brought to this town : and, after passing through divers ownerships, it came ultimately into the possession of J. B. Minor, Esq., of Astley House, who presented it to the town. It was then placed near the entrance to the Quarry, but, on the erection of the new Gates, it was removed to its present site.

It may be interesting to observe that some of the older lime trees, forming the avenues, bear cut in their bark the date of their original planting. The earliest of these dates is 1743 ; and, among other dates, are 1760, 1764, 1777, and 1790. Some of the tallest trees have attained a height of 170 feet.

In the Dingle are several objects of interest. Here is the recumbent statue of "SABRINA"—a poetic personification of the Severn,—the base upon which it reclines being inscribed with an illustrative quotation from Milton. "Sabrina," or Sabra, be it here noted, is said to be derived from an old Celtic word—*Sabhrann*—signifying a boundary, which word the Romans latinised into Sabrina, and the poets subsequently adopted as their own. The sculptor was Mr. Hollins, of Birmingham, and the donor of it was the Earl of Bradford, Lord Lieutenant of Shropshire. Here also is the relic of the SHOEMAKERS' ARBOUR—the Doric entrance or portico—removed hither from Kingsland ; it now encloses a pretty grotto and fountain, surrounded with beautiful ferns. In the tympanum are mutilated effigies of SS. Crispin and Crispinianus—the patron saints of the craft—and with them this inscription :

"We are but images of stoune,  
"Do us no harme, we can do nounce."

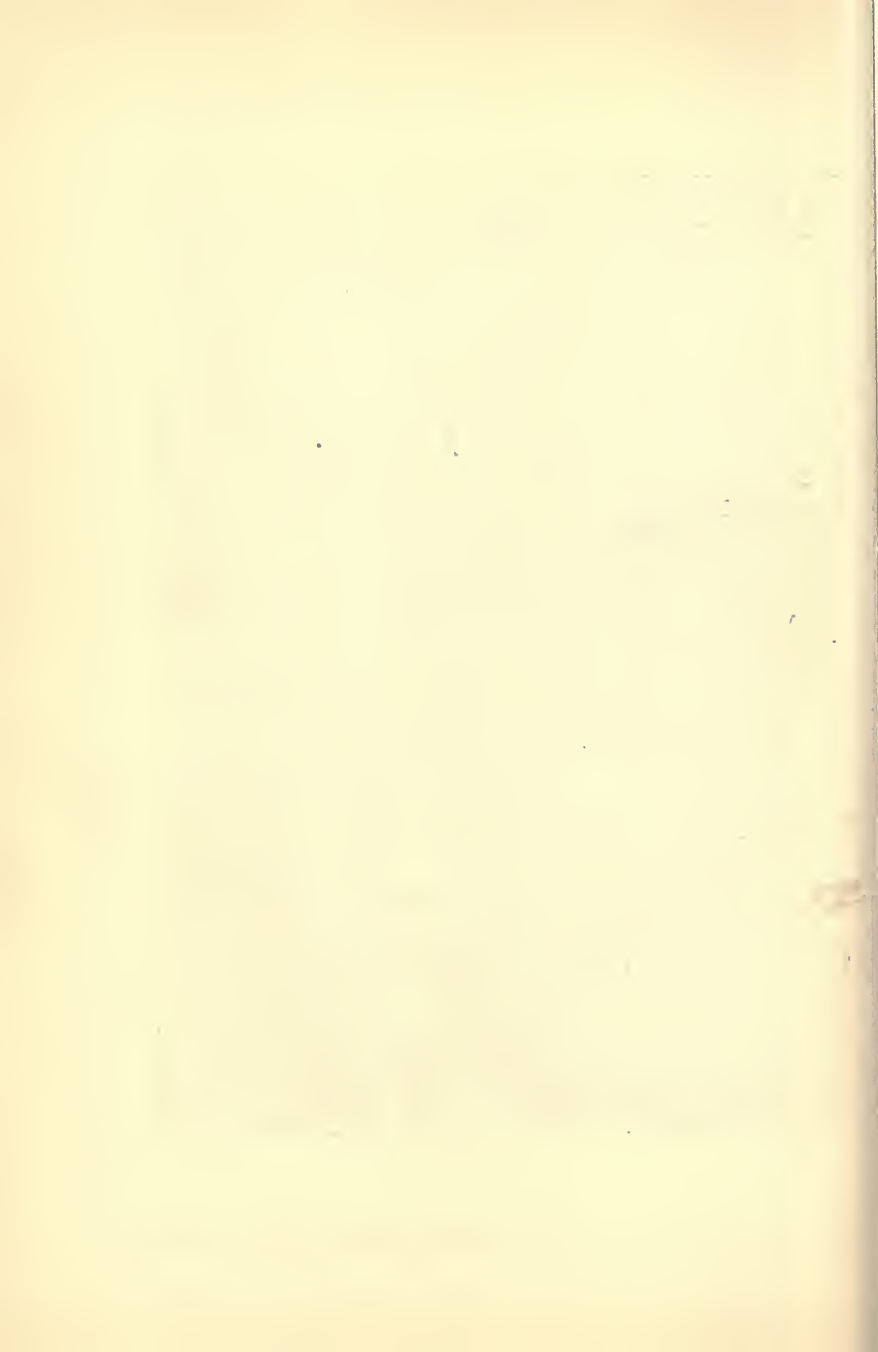
It bears what appear to be the arms of the Guild, and the date "1679," and on either side are still faintly discernible bas-reliefs of certain emblems of the shoemakers' craft, namely, a big riding boot, a lady's boot, and a clicker's knife.

The ornamental FOUNTAIN in the centre of the Dingle was the gift of the Shrewsbury District of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows (M.U.) in 1889, and bears an inscription to that effect. It is of cast metal, and certainly lends a graceful interest to the spot, but it might be brought into more artistic keeping with its surroundings were its present metallic aspect



From Photo by J. Laing, Shrewsbury.

IN THE QUARRY DINGLE.





exchanged for a "roughed" coating of paint in imitation of stone.

In the Dingle, close to the ornamental sheet of water, is the "HATCHERY," where, under the auspices of the Shrewsbury Angling Society, salmon are hatched from ova and "cultivated" through various phases of progression until mature enough to be turned free into the Severn, there to feed and migrate, and return and fatten, and finally, with becoming sense of the fitness of things, find fate on the tempting bait and hook of the Salopian angler! The Hatchery is well worthy inspection by anyone interested in such matters. Mr. J. Williams, the Shirehall, is Secretary of the Shrewsbury Angling Society.

At the eastern extremity of the grounds, adjoining St. Austin's Priory, between Claremont Bank and the River, are located the

### NEW "JUBILEE" BATHS.

They are most elegant, commodious, and complete. They cover an area of 1,600 square yards. They have two frontages of 250 feet each, with separate entrances for males and females, that for the latter being on the Quarry side. There are spacious swimming baths, and excellent slipper baths, with every requisite and convenience, for both sexes. Erected at a cost of £7,000, by public subscription, they are a lasting memorial of the fiftieth anniversary of the accession of Her Majesty Queen Victoria. The fund for their erection was inaugurated and mainly raised during the mayoralty of Mr. George Butler Lloyd in the years 1889-90, and,

consistently with that circumstance, the foundation stone was laid by Mrs. George Butler Lloyd, on Whit-Monday, 1893, with all due ceremonial, in presence of the Mayor (Mr. George Evans), H. D. Greene, Esq., Q.C., M.P. (the Member for the Borough), the Members of the Corporation, the Bishop of Shrewsbury (the Right Rev. Sir Lovelace Stamer, Bart.), and an influential assemblage. The work was carried out under the direction of Mr. J. Chappel Eddowes (Borough Surveyor).

#### THE MODERN SHREWSBURY "SHOW."

However widely known and largely attended may have been "the ancient Shrewsbury Show"—the grand parade of local Guilds already described,—it could never have equalled in either respect the grand annual "Show" that, by a happy evolution, now occupies its place. The Floral Show inaugurated by the Shropshire Horticultural Society a few years ago, has, from modest beginnings, grown year after year in magnitude and attractiveness, until now it is, beyond dispute, the greatest show of its kind in the kingdom. It is held yearly in the Quarry grounds, on two days in the latter part of the month of August, the first day being distinguished by the patronage of the county's rank and fashion, and the second by the presence of the masses in their tens of thousands from all parts of the country.

#### ST. CHAD'S CHURCH

Is situate immediately outside the south wall of the Quarry. Begun very shortly after the accidental des-



By kind permission of The Bishop of Shrewsbury.

From Photo by J. Laing, Shrewsbury.

ST. CHAD'S CHURCH, SHREWSBURY.



truction of old St. Chad's, it was completed and consecrated in 1792, at a cost of £19,352. It is especially noteworthy as being one of the very few "round" churches in this country. The body of the edifice covers a circular area 100 feet in diameter, and a similar partly intersecting lesser circle is occupied by an inner vestibule. It has seats for a congregation of 2,000 persons. On either side of the entrance, under the tower, are vestries. The font, of grey marble, was purchased from the parish of Malpas in 1842. The pulpit, a rather striking, and indeed almost dazzling object, sure to attract attention, was the bequest of Mrs. Henry Morris, senr., of Swan Hill, Shrewsbury. The organ is a fine instrument by Messrs. Gray and Davidson, of London. The painted windows in this church are exceptionally fine and numerous, and merit careful inspection. The chancel window is filled with a painted glass reproduction of the famous picture by Rubens of "The Descent from the Cross;" and the two lesser side lights contain "The Visitation," and "The Presentation in the Temple." Hanging in the outer vestibule are the old battle-tatter'd colours of the gallant 53rd (Shropshire) Regiment; while around them are mural memorials to the officers and men of that regiment who fell in the Indian Campaigns and during the "Mutiny."

The Vicar of St. Chad's is the Right Rev. Sir LOVELACE STAMER, Bart., Bishop of Shrewsbury.

Following the ancient boundary of the Town Walls, we shortly reach

## THE EYE, EAR, AND THROAT HOSPITAL,

In Murivance,—a singularly striking building architecturally, illustrating the novel shapes to which brick-work may be put by artistic ingenuity, with a general result that must be admitted to be handsome. It stands at right-angles with St. John's Row and Kingsland Bridge Road. It was designed by Mr. C. O. Ellison, architect, of Liverpool, and erected by the Messrs. Treasure and Son, builders, of Shrewsbury. Its cost was £10,000, chiefly raised by public subscription. The foundation stone was laid in 1879 by the then President of the Institution—the Earl of Powis.

## THE NEW KINGSLAND BRIDGE

Is a graceful structure of iron on the bow and girder principle, connecting this part of the town with the suburb of Kingsland. It was opened for public traffic in July, 1882. Here a half-penny toll is imposed for each foot passenger.

Continuing our way along the Town Walls, we pass, on our immediate right, an

## OLD EMBATTLED TOWER,

The only one surviving of the many that once formed part of the mural defences which, in the reign of Henry III., were thrown up round the town by way of protecting it against the inroads of the then turbulent Welsh. It is square, and consists of two stories, the upper being originally entered by a low, pointed doorway from the top of the wall.



## THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH,

Dedicated to St. Mary of Help and St. Peter of Alcantara, is on the Town Walls. It was erected in 1856, from designs by Mr. E. W. Pugin, at the cost of the Earl of Shrewsbury. Commodious newly-erected Day Schools for Roman Catholic children are also adjacent here.

## THE JUDGES' LODGINGS,

Which front towards Belmont, we pass on the left. They are roomy, not without a certain dignity, and occupy a most commanding and pleasant situation. They are the property of the County, and are maintained for the use of the Judges of Assize, and for the purposes of the Magistrates at Quarter Sessions, and of the County Council.

Between this point and the English Bridge, and nearer the river-side, may be seen what remains of the Franciscans' or GREY FRIARS' CONVENT, which was founded here in the early part of the 14th century by Hawise, wife of John de Chorlton, Lord of Powis, and heiress of the ancient Princes of Powisland. The visitor may, from the river towing-path, be able to discriminate what survives of this ecclesiastical relic among the cottage dwellings with which it has gradually become more and more confounded and confused.

## THE GREY FRIARS' BRIDGE

Is for the accommodation of foot passengers only, and connects the Wyle Cop and Beeches Lane, through

Julian's Friars, with the suburbs of Coleham and Belle Vue.

Following hence the river-side path, we soon come upon another strikingly pretty phase of the picturesque beauty which distinguishes the whole circling course of the Severn round Shrewsbury. The broadly curving stream,—with willow-clothed islets mid-way, and the spire of the Congregational Church rising on the further side, and the massive tower of the old Abbey Church beyond,—is here spanned by the seven fine arches of

### THE ENGLISH BRIDGE,

Which, supplanting an older structure built by the great Earl Roger, was erected in 1769 from designs by Mr. John Gwynn, architect, of London, and a native of Shrewsbury. Its cost was £16,000, wholly raised by voluntary contributions. The bridge, 410 feet long and 35 feet wide, is remarkable for strength, and grace, and massiveness, and is one of the handsomest of its kind in the Kingdom.

Passing over the Bridge, immediately in front, on the right, is the CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH (the Minister of which is the Rev. T. Townsend); on the left is SHREWSBURY COLLEGE (conducted by Mr. W. T. Tutton, F.R.G.S.); while in the Foregate, beyond the Railway Bridge—whose unsightly squareness and bareness sadly mars an otherwise pretty prospect—rises the massive, ruddy, time-worn Tower of

THE ABBEY CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND  
ST. PAUL.

This Church is all that remains of what was anciently one of the richest and finest abbeys of the Benedictine Order in England. It was founded, as already stated, by the Conqueror's favourite lieutenant, the great Roger, first Norman Earl of Montgomery, in 1083, by way of "grateful and pious" acknowledgment of Heaven's blessing upon his arms. His new Abbey he located on or near where was already a small church—built by a Saxon thane named Siward—and he, probably in association with the aforesaid thane, obtained its dedication to St. Peter (as was the precedent Saxon church) and St. Paul. He himself, in the year 1094, assumed the monastic habit, and entered his newly-founded monastery only a few days before his turbulent life ended for ever, and he was interred "in the new church, between the two altars." The monastery was richly endowed. Its glebe lands are estimated to have amounted to 3,120 acres, portions of its more distant possessions lying in Staffordshire, Yorkshire, Lancashire, and Cheshire. The second and third Earls of Montgomery (in succession to Roger) were also buried here, the latter having, by his repeated treasons, forfeited his earldom and estates to the King (Henry I.), and consequently the Abbots became tenants in *capite* and barons, with a seat among the spiritual peers of the realm. In the reign of Stephen the Abbey acquired a remarkable accession of sanctity owing to its then becoming the resting-place for the remains of Saint Winefrede, which, by some shrewd practice on the part of the monks of St. Peter and St. Paul, were "conveyed" from their previous place of burial at

Gwytherin, in Denbighshire, to the Salopian abbey, which, presumably, they imagined to be in need of such miracle-working attractions, and which was soon further enriched with many other like relics of sanctity. The place prospered. In the 26th year of Henry VIII.—preceding the dissolution of the monasteries—its possessions were estimated to be of the yearly value of £572 15s. 5d., equal to upwards of £4,700 of our present currency; and even this estimate is believed to be below their actual value. The Abbey, and the monastic buildings which anciently crowded round it, were often the scene of regal, legislative, and other remarkable gatherings. It is highly probable that our early kings, in visiting Shrewsbury, made the Abbey their place of sojourn. The Parliament of Edward I., as well as the “Great Parliament” of Richard II. (1398) were, no doubt, held within its walls. It was at this latter assembly that the unfortunate Welsh Prince David was tried, and sentenced to death, on the charge of high treason—a sentence that was carried out in Shrewsbury. Early in the year 1539-40, the monastery, after an existence of between four and five centuries, was by royal mandate dissolved, and the abbot and his monks dispersed, though not without being assigned “compensating” pensions, such as they were. The buildings and site of the vacated monastery were disposed of to lay speculators, and, alas! the work of demolition soon began, every greedy hand that could, in the scramble, get a grip upon its fabric being in selfish haste to clear it off, and appropriate the proceeds, before any change in the royal policy and purpose might baulk it of its plunder! Useless here to trace the secular hands through which the monastic property subsequently passed. Suffice

it simply to say that one little fragment of the old buildings was suffered to survive—the isolated stone READING PULPIT, which, anciently part of the Refectory, now remains so striking and even pathetic an object amid the alien surroundings of a coal-yard, and separated by a modern road-way from the consecrated edifice with which anciently it was so intimately connected. It probably dates from the 15th century, or earlier. It is octagonal, and its roof internally culminates in a Gothic dome. In the centre of its under-section is a fine bas-relief representing The Crucifixion, with St. John and the Virgin Mary at the foot of the Cross. In the outer stone panels are other bas-reliefs of interest.

For long, too long, the grand old Abbey remained a sort of common quarry for building materials. With the dawn of the present century, however, the public conscience showed some signs of awakening, if not of practical repentance. The lamentable condition of the Church's fabric at length began to attract serious attention. Its renovation was resolved upon. Urgently needed structural restorations of a partial character were made; and, in 1886,—by the liberality of an anonymous donor—the present fine Chancel was re-built, from designs by Mr. J. L. Pearson, R.A., yet the transepts still lack their northern and southern extensions. The magnificent west window—46 ft. high and 23 ft. wide—was completely restored in 1888. The restoration of the nave roof and clerestory is now proceeding (1893) under the same architect.

The Church contains several ancient monuments of great interest. Here is an effigy supposed to be that

of the Abbey's founder; an alabaster altar tomb removed hither from Wellington old Church, with recumbent figures of William and Ann Charlton, the former of whom died in 1544; also an effigy presumed to be that of Walter de Dunstanville, first lord of Idshall (Shifnal), *circa* 1196; and an altar tomb with effigies of Richard Onslow (speaker of the House of Commons in Elizabeth's reign) and his wife, brought hither from old St. Chad's. Between the Vestry and the steps into the Sanctuary are a number of inscribed tiles which deserve careful examination, some among them bearing allusions to the families of Talbot, Leighton, Broughton, Heytesbury, Beauchamp, and Fitzwarin. The Reredos is a triptych, with panels illustrating the Passion. In the south aisle is a large oil painting representing "Women at the Holy Sepulchre," the work of Mr. John Bridges. The stone figures in the canopied niche between the belfry windows in the western front is generally supposed to represent King Edward III., in whose reign the tower was probably built. In the square, shallow piers of the tower's basement are modern figures of the Abbey's tutelary saints PETER and PAUL. Within the north porch, against the eastern wall, are two recumbent stone effigies, originally part of an altar-tomb in St. Alkmond's Church.

The ancient abbey buildings, with their precincts, covered no less than nine acres. The Abbey itself was an imposing structure, cruciform, with two fine towers, one over the transept and the other at the western end of the nave. But, as already indicated, only about a third of the ancient Church survived the ravages of the iconoclasts let loose upon it at the dissolution. Still,

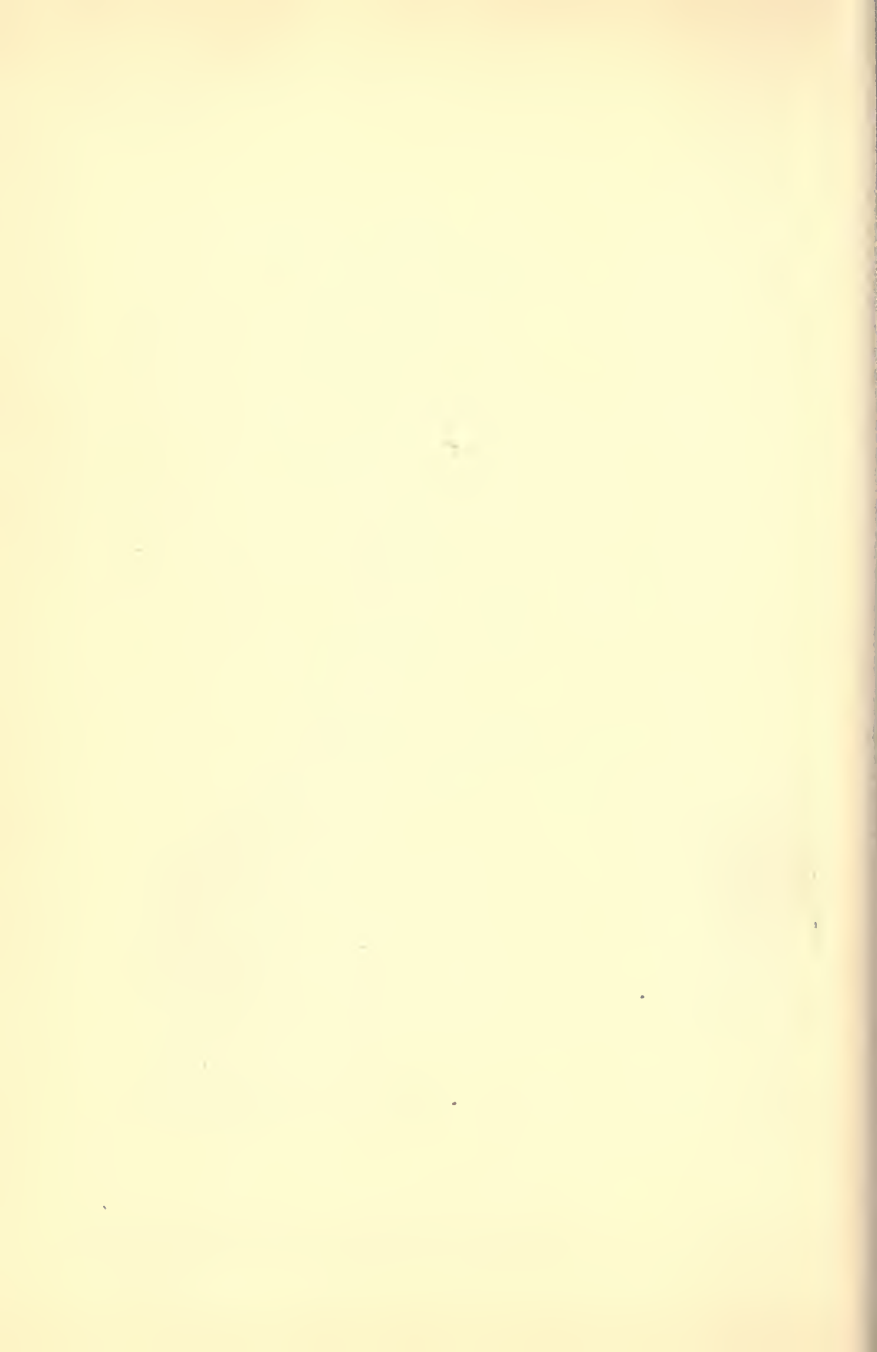




*Sedgwick, Engraver, Blackfriars, London.*

*From a Photo by J. Laing, Shrewsbury.*

**THE ABBEY CHURCH.**



even now, the edifice, externally and internally, strikes the beholder with a sense of its singularly massive amplitude, its solemn stateliness and impressiveness.

The present vicar is the Rev. W. H. Draper, M.A. The services are—Sundays: Holy Communion, 8 a.m.; Matins, 11 a.m.; Evensong, 6.30 p.m

### THE HOSPITAL OF HOLY CROSS

Is on the north side of the Church, from which it is separated only by the Foregate. Built and endowed in 1852 by the late Daniel Rowland, Esq., in memory of his brother, the Rev. W. G. Rowland, who was curate of the Abbey Church during the long period of 32 years, the buildings comprise rooms for five inmates.

### WHITEHALL,

A fine old Tudor mansion, stands in extensive grounds between Whitehall Place and the Abbey Foregate. It was erected fully three centuries ago by a famous Elizabethan lawyer named Prince, after whom it was long known as Prince's Place, until, for some reason or other, about which antiquarians are not yet quite agreed, its designation was altered to that of "Whitehall"—popularly accounted for, however, by the undeniable fact that, under some passing freak of vandalism, it was for a time "*whitewashed!*" The property, after being held by divers owners, among them being the Earl of Tankerville, finally came by purchase into the possession of the

late Bishop Butler, and is now held, though not occupied, by his grandson, the Ven. T. B. Lloyd. Archdeacon of Salop.

At the top of the Abbey Foregate, on a suitably commanding site, is

### LORD HILL'S COLUMN,

Raised by public subscription in 1815-16 to commemorate the signal and glorious military services of General Lord Hill during the war against the First Napoleon in the Peninsula and during the hundred days which culminated with the decisive victory of Waterloo. The total cost was about £6,000. The inscription on the base of the monument records the battles in which the Shropshire hero took part. The column, including the colossal statue upon its summit, is 133 feet high—the largest Doric Column in the world. Inside the shaft is a spiral stair of 172 steps, by which the curious visitor may, for a small gratuity, ascend to the top, and thence survey a far-extending and delightfully varied panorama of the surrounding country. The attendant who has charge of the column, and who is usually an old soldier, resides at the neat little Doric lodge close by. The first care-taker was a veteran named Sergeant Davies, of the Welsh Fusileers, and a Shropshire man, who had been orderly-sergeant to Lord Hill at the Battle of Waterloo. The last was Sergeant Sanson, of the 53rd (Shropshire) Regiment, whose widow now (1893) holds the position formerly held by her husband.

A short distance on the Wenlock Road stands

## THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES.

It dates from the time of Henry I., who founded it for the use of an adjoining hospital for lepers. About the middle of the fifteenth century it was parochialised, being joined to the parish of Holy Cross without the Monastery. In 1857, however, it was formed into a separate ecclesiastical district, and has since had an incumbent of its own, the Rev. H. Stokes being the present Vicar.

From this point it were easy, if time permitted, to extend our ramble along Sutton-lane as far as the

## MINERAL SPRINGS .

That lie picturesquely and almost hidden in the wooded hollow near what is known as Burnt Mill. That the waters of these springs possess peculiar medicinal virtues there can be no doubt. The fact is locally notorious. Referring to them in 1841, Dr. T. Ogier Ward, in his "*Medical Topography of Shrewsbury*," says:—

"I have found it most beneficial in those cases for which *sea water* is usually recommended. It yields the same salutary stimulus to the stomach, and obviates, both mildly and effectually, the habitual costiveness of hypochondriac patients. In chronic diseases of the skin this water has been found a very valuable remedy, both internally and externally applied; and I am happy to bear testimony that a twenty years' attendance at the Salop Infirmary, as well as in private practice, has furnished me with abundant proofs of its success in scrofulous complaints. In addition to its properties in common with sea water, it enjoys one evident advantage in containing *iron*; and it is now well ascertained that small and repeated doses of this valuable metal produce far more beneficial and permanent effects upon the constitution than the much larger ones formerly prescribed."

Not unnaturally, seeing waters so possibly useful for the relief and amelioration of disease apparently running to waste, there have been efforts by enthusiastic persons—the writer among the number—to concert measures whereby they might be more profitably utilised for the public good. The last attempt in this direction was made under what appeared to be especially favouring circumstances. In December, 1892, a number of local gentlemen interested in the subject assembled, under the presidency of the Mayor (Geo. Evans, Esq.), in the rooms of Messrs. Adnitt and Naunton, The Square, and, after full discussion, during which the dominating opinion was strongly expressed in favour of something practical being done to bring our local mineral springs into wider and more convenient public use with the view of enhancing the health-giving attractions of Shrewsbury as a residential town, an influential committee was formed, with Wm. Phillips, Esq., as chairman, for the purpose of making thorough examination of “the sources of mineral waters available within the borough or conveniently adjacent to it,” and “to co-operate with any committee which the Town Council might appoint for the same purpose.” The Town Council, acceding to representations made to them by a deputation, appointed a Special Committee, with Mr. J. A. Lea as chairman, to inquire into the question in concert with the outside Committee. Thus the initial energy and independent character of the original Committee was merged and lost in the municipal one, though this possible disadvantage had some compensation in the fact that the inquiry might thus be aided by the trained assistance of official and scientific experts where and when necessary. Two or three meetings of the joint Committee were held. A fresh analysis of the



Sutton Spa waters was made in March, 1893, by Mr. T. P. Blunt, M.A., F.I.C., F.C.S., the county analyst, whose report sets forth that the solid contents of an imperial gallon are :—

		GRAINS.
Sodium Chloride ..	..	.. 1174·5
Calcium Chloride ..	..	.. 299·15
Magnesium Chloride ..	..	.. 31·52
Barium Chloride ..	..	.. 15·99
Barium Carbonate ..	..	.. 14·79
Silica ..	..	.. 3·2
Iron Carbonate ..	..	.. 0·14
		<hr/>
		1546·29
		<hr/>

Saline Ammonia, driven off during evaporation, 0·14 grains per gallon. Organic matter very small in quantity. Nitrates represented by less than 0·1 grains per gallon of Nitrogen. One gallon contains 16 cubic inches of dissolved Carbonic Acid Gas, in addition to that combined with the Barium; also a small quantity of Oxygen and Nitrogen, derived from the air. This Water is a powerful Saline purgative. It is especially remarkable as containing considerable quantities of Baryta in the forms of the Carbonate and Chloride of Barium.

Mr. Blunt also gives it as his opinion that—

“The Sutton Spa water is a powerful saline aperient, and its purgative properties would not be liable to be affected by transference in pipes to a distance. From the information in the possession of your Committee, it does, not, however, appear that the quantity of the water at present yielded by the well at Sutton Spa is very large, or that the nature of its constituents are sufficiently exceptional to justify any great expenditure in bringing it to the centre of the town.”

Without our here entering into any lengthy detail, it must suffice to say briefly that the result of this semi-official investigation was of a character to effectually set the Mineral Water agitation at rest for another generation at least. The modest vision some had pictured of the "waters" being brought to a convenient point within the town—say, at the New Baths in the Quarry—instead of being left in a position practically unavailable for the town's general advantage, was quietly dissipated. Practical men decided that the idea, though pretty, was not practical. It was accordingly relegated to the local limbo of all such ineffectual dreams—whether ever to reappear or not, who shall say? There is now some proposal or suggestion of Saline Water Baths—from local brine springs—to be provided in connection with the new Jubilee Baths in the Quarry, but for the present (1893) this minor scheme remains in the nebulous uncertainty best understood as the "committee stage."

Someday, perhaps, what nature has so bountifully provided will be better utilized. Pending that day, and assuming rather that the visitor needs now no such refresher as a mineral drink, unless from the familiar stopper'd bottle, with or without a suspicion of something stronger, we now return townwards as rapidly as may be.

Re-crossing the English Bridge, and merely remarking that the suburbs of Coleham and Belle Vue and Meole Brace may be reached by divergence along the road on our immediate left at the Bridge, we soon begin to ascend

## WYLE COP,

Noting on our right the singularly picturesque and skilfully restored frontage of the old "Unicorn Hotel," and pausing a moment before the ancient dwelling, higher on the left, to read the quasi-antique mural inscription which, ignoring the fact that Henry of Richmond was not King until after Bosworth, records the interesting fact that this is "*Ye auncient house in which King Henry the VII. slept when he went to Bosworth Field, August, 1485.*"

At the junction of Milk Street with High Street and Wyle Cop. opposite St. Julian's Church, there stood until quite recently an old edifice, faintly and curiously ecclesiastic in some of its features, that had once been the CLOTHWORKERS' or SHEARMEN'S Hall. and subsequently used at different times as a theatre, a chapel, a court of justice, a shop, and a warehouse. It has now, however, been wholly removed, and replaced by a new and handsome building, after designs by Mr. Oswell, architect, of Shrewsbury. in a style which may be best described perhaps as modernised Tudor, adapted to commercial uses, for Messrs. Hall, Wateridge, and Owen, auctioneers, land agents, and surveyors, as their COUNTY AUCTION MART.

A few steps along Milk Street, brings us to

## THE REMAINS OF OLD ST. CHAD'S.

On the site of this most ancient Church, or closely adjacent, during the old British and early Saxon occupation, stood, it is credibly assumed, the Palaces of

the Princes who ruled this region; and it was round this royal centre that the town first gathered itself and gradually grew. The origin of Old Saint Chad's is lost in obscurity. It is conjectured that the first church was built by the Saxons; but there is no distinct historic evidence in proof of the presumption. The first mention we find of a church here is in Domesday Book, which, with characteristic brevity, records that at that date it "held  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hides" of land. Whatever may have preceded it, a Collegiate Church was here erected about the time of the Conquest, under the patronage of the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry. It underwent restoration in the reign of Henry III, and again in the reign of Richard II, when it was almost wholly re-built after a destructive fire, caused by the negligence of a workman while repairing the lead of the roof, and who, trying to escape the anticipated punishment of his carelessness, was drowned in fording the Severn. It was after this fire that was built the church of which some partial ruins still remain. From the beginning of the fifteenth century onward until the reign of Henry VIII. and Edward VI., in the middle of the sixteenth, the history of the church presents little of special interest; but in the reign of the latter monarch the church's original collegiate foundation was dissolved, and the site of the college granted to secular owners, the church being thenceforward parochial only. The characteristics of the ancient building were mainly Norman, though it bore ample evidences of later developments of the Gothic. Its dimensions are stated to have been as follow:—east to west, 160 feet; width of nave and aisles, 53 feet; and transepts 92 feet. In the east or chancel window was the fine stained glass which now (as stated on page 26) occupies a similar

position in the Church of St. Mary, and illustrates the genealogy of Christ from "the root of Jesse." This church would seem to have been fated to catastrophe. Once more, and this time irretrievably, though not by fire, destruction overtook it. On the 9th of July, 1788, at four o'clock in the morning, just as the chimes had gone "for the last time," almost the whole of the edifice collapsed with a tremendous crash. One of the stone pillars supporting the central tower had given way, and the superincumbent masonry and spire toppled over, with all the weight of ten ponderous bells, into the nave beneath, carrying with them the whole intervening structure and even crushing through into the crypt below. Thus, in one disastrous moment, the fine old Church became suddenly an undistinguishable heap of ruins. Happily, however, the catastrophe entailed no loss of human life. Since that day no divine worship has been celebrated on this most venerable site, where the services of the church, Romanist or Protestant, had before been observed continuously for some five hundred years—or, assuming the tradition be true that here the palace of the Princes of Powys was converted into a church by one of the Mercian Kings as early as 780, then for no less than a thousand years! The only portion that remains of this once important Church is "the Lady Chapel." The ruins of the crypt were explored in 1889 by the Shropshire Archæological Society. The conditions then revealed indicated that the original crypt must have been  $31\frac{1}{2}$  feet in length, divided into four bays, and  $22\frac{1}{2}$  feet in width, divided into two bays.

In the burial ground, near the pathway leading from Belmont to College Hill, is the grave of Captain John

Benbow, who, as already recorded, was shot at the Castle in 1651 for his loyalty to the cause of King Charles II.

Close by here, in Milk Street, is the SHREWSBURY DISPENSARY—an institution whose object is, by means of combination among the humbler classes, and by aid of voluntary subscriptions, to afford medical attendance and medicine to the sick poor. By payment of 5s. annually members are entitled to the benefits of the institution and attendance at their own homes if necessary.

### THE SCHOOL OF ART AND SCIENCE

Occupies part of the premises on College Hill, adjoining the rear of the Music Hall, formerly known as "Vaughan's Place"—a fine old building dating from the 14th century, built by Sir Hamo Vaughan, and once the town residence of the Myttons, of Halston. The large room (probably the dining-hall of the ancient mansion) is worth inspecting. The Art School here is conducted by Mr. C. Cortissos, a certificated master from South Kensington, and the Science Classes by Mr. Harrison, B.A. The Secretary is Mr. F. Goyne.

On the opposite side of the street are the offices of the SHROPSHIRE SHEEP BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION (Secretary, Mr. J. Mansell), and of Messrs. MANSELL, TURNBULL, and LLOYD, the well-known Stock Salesmen, Land Agents, and Land Surveyors.

At the bottom of the street, on Swan Hill, is the new BOROUGH POLICE STATION, with the office of the



Inspector of WEIGHTS AND MEASURES—now (1893) fast nearing completion, and of an aspect so spacious, imposing, and decorative, that one cannot but regret it did not find a location more suitable, and where it might have been seen to better advantage.

Hence, we turn to the right into Market Street, and so once more into the Square, where our long, yet we trust not uninteresting, "Round-about Ramble" ends.





## Excursions.

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**F**EW towns have prettier, pleasanter, or more picturesque natural surroundings than Shrewsbury. Turn which way the explorer may, he will find within easy distance, whether by road, river, or rail, scenes of great historic interest and surpassing beauty and attractiveness. Amongst these, we would here refer briefly to :—

HAGHMON.\*—An ancient demesne, about four miles distant, whose distinguishing features are the “high mound” or hill, still partly clothed with grand sylvan survivors of “the forest primeval,” and the venerable ruins of the old Augustinian Abbey, that once reared its towers and spread its cloisters at the hill’s foot. It is stated by Mr. W. Burson (to whose concise account of the Abbey and of Battlefield we would refer the reader for fuller information) that a house of Austin or Black

\* We have adhered to the ancient form of this name.



*Sedgwick Engraver, Blackfriars, London.*

**HAUGHMOND HILL & CASTLE.**

*From Photo by Frith, Reigate.*



Canons was founded here between 1130 and 1138, and that it developed into its higher dignity in or before 1155, its real founder being William FitzAlan, head of the powerful baronial house which held vast estates in Shropshire, including this domain. Of the existing ruins, the portion immediately in front of the small opening which now forms the doorway was the Refectory; on the left was the lavatory and the cloisters, whose eastern boundary was, and is, the Chapter House. The property is now possessed by the Rev. George Wm. Pigott-Corbet (formerly Pigott), to whom it descends in the female line from the Corbets, and who, therefore, assumes by royal license the name and arms of that family. From the heath-covered summit of the hill, an extensive and delightful view is obtained, with the Severn winding like a silver thread through a level and fertile vale. It commands the field whereon the famous battle of Shrewsbury was fought. Upon its brow is a thicket still called "the Queen's Bower," from a popular legend that here Queen Eleanor watched the progress of the fight. Another story associated with the battle and this hill is that Earl Douglas, in attempting to escape from the field, and trying here to leap his horse over a precipitous crag, fell and was taken prisoner. The towers of Sundorne Castle (the seat of the owners of Haghmon) are visible amid the trees to the west in the middle distance, while far beyond are to be discerned dimly the spires of distant Shrewsbury.

BATTLEFIELD.—This famous field—the scene of

"The bloody rout that gave  
"To Harry's brow a wreath—to Hotspur's heart a grave,"

—lies two miles north west of Haghmon Abbey. An account of the battle is given on pages 6, 7, and 8. The CHURCH of Battlefield was originally erected in grateful commemoration of King Henry's triumph, and the King himself has been generally credited therewith, but it is believed by some that the real founder was "a staunch Lancastrian" priest named Ive, rector of Fitz in 1399, and of Albright Hussey from 1398 to 1447. The Church underwent entire restoration in 1861. (For a full description of the edifice see the handbook by the Rev. W. G. D. Fletcher.)

CONDOVER.- Four miles from Shrewsbury is the village of Condover (over-Cound or Upper Cound, to distinguish it from another place lower on the Cound Brook), it is very ancient, originating, it is believed, with the Saxons. In its early vicissitudes, after the Norman Conquest, the Manor passed and re-passed between Kings and private grantees divers times, until Henry VIII. granted it to Sir Henry Knevett, who soon afterwards sold it to Thomas Owen, Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, whose son, Sir Roger, was the builder of Condover Hall in 1598. The property subsequently passed by maternal descent to the family of Cholmondeley, the present owner being Reginald Cholmondeley, Esq. The hall is one of the finest examples of Tudor domestic architecture in the kingdom, and it contains many paintings and artistic treasures well worth going ten times the distance to see. The gardens, too, are remarkable for their extent and beauty.

HAWKSTONE.—This uniquely picturesque spot is distant twelve miles by road, or it may be reached by rail



to Wem, and thence by road four miles. It has for centuries been the seat of the distinguished Shropshire family of Hill, and was greatly extended and adorned by the famous General Lord Hill. On a rock within the Park are the ruins of "Red Castle," built by Henry de Audley in the reign of Henry III. A quaint and now somewhat antiquated "Guide" describes the scenery about Hawkstone as "alluring to the admirers of Nature as well as to persons of Taste and Curiosity," and he adds that "the Mansion itself has become an additional attraction to the multitude of beauties which have allured visitors to Hawkstone Park from every quarter of the World!" And verily, in sober truth, this is so. And if it be possible for us to add anything more to "allure" the visitor of "Taste and Curiosity," it must be found in the reminder that Hawkstone is the seat of a family long distinguished for its private worth, and eminent for its public services. But what go we there for to see? Well (*pace* the old Guide already quoted) there are—or were—"The Hall," "The Gardens," "The Summer House," "The Awful Precipice," "The Elysian Hill," "The Citadel," "Fox's Knob," "Giant's Well," "Gingerbread Hall," "Grotto," "Gulf," "Hermit's Cave," "Indian Rock," "Lion," "Lover's Leap," "Menagerie," "Neptune's Whim," "Newfoundland Point," "Obelisk," "Raven's Shelf," "Reynard's Banqueting House," "Roman Camp," "Scene at Otahite," "Scene in Switzerland," "St. Francis' Cave," "Tower Glen," "Vineyard," "Vis-a-vis," and, lastly, "Patience." We might add largely to the list of attractions, but these will, we think, be sufficient to prove how there is more than enough to "allure" the Pilgrim of "Taste and Curiosity" to Hawkstone.

WROXETER.—About five miles along the London Road, passing ATCHAM (where was born Ordericus, historian and chaplain to William the Conqueror, and where there is an old and most interesting Church, dedicated to St. Etta—whence the name of the place—and a fine Bridge over the broad Severn), and Attingham Hall (the seat of Lord Berwick), brings us to the remains—and they are but scant indeed—of what was, fifteen hundred years ago, the important Roman station of Uriconium. The foundations and ruinous walls of a few buildings, with fragments of tessellated pavement, are all that can now be seen to attest the one-time existence here of a city that is supposed to have covered an area of more than 300 acres. The Church, which combines late Norman with almost all subsequent styles in its reparations, contains several altar-tombs with effigies.

The WREKIN.—Continuing the drive from Wroxeter (six miles) or by rail from Shrewsbury to Wellington (rail 10 miles and road 3) we reach the famous Shropshire hill *yclept* "The Wrekin," remembered proudly and affectionately in the toast drunk by Salopians, wherever assembled, the wide world over! It is nearly 1,300 feet high. The prospect from its wooded summit comprehends thirteen counties. The author of "*The Severn Valley*," describing the scene, well says:—"It is a wonderful panorama of river, dale, and dingle, wood beyond wood, rock beyond rock, and hill rising beyond hill, their blue tops swelling, towering, vanishing, melting into the azure sky, the whole forming one solemn picture beyond the reach of pen and pencil." The visitor fond of geological exploration will find this an unrivalled field for study. Conveyances are run from Wellington to the

foot of the hill, where there is a well-appointed refreshment "Pavilion," and, about half-way up the ascent, is "The Cottage," where refreshments may also be obtained.

**BUILDWAS ABBEY.**—Ruins of a fine old Cistercian Abbey, pleasantly situate on the banks of the Severn, and believed to have been founded by Roger de Clinton in 1135. Twelve miles from Shrewsbury, reached by the Severn Valley Railway.

**WENLOCK PRIORY.**—Resuming our journey by the same line, a distance of four miles from Buildwas, and through the beautiful ravine of Farley, we reach the quaintly pretty little town of Wenlock, and explore the ruins of one of the oldest and most important religious houses in Shropshire. Here are remarkably beautiful examples of early pointed architecture. The Chapter House (Norman in style) is of especial interest. Another noteworthy feature is the two-storied Cloister, 100 feet in length. The Priory was founded by St. Milburga in the seventh century, and, being destroyed by the Danes about a century later, was afterwards rebuilt by Leofric, Earl of Mercia; and was again restored and largely added to by the Norman baron, Roger de Montgomery, in 1080, for monks of the Cluniac Order. There is also much of antiquarian and architectural interest in the town of Wenlock, particularly the parish Church and the Guild Hall, the latter for its old carved oak wainscoting and furniture.

**ACTON BURNELL.**—Following the road from Shrewsbury to Wenlock, through Berrington and Pitchford (both possessing ancient churches worth passing examination), a distance of nine miles, Acton Burnell is

reached. Here are the ruins of a castle built by Robert Burnell, Bishop of Bath and Wells. In the reign of Edward I., a parliament was held here. In the Church are fine monuments, one supposed to be to Sir Nicholas Burnell, and dated 1382. About a couple of miles to the south of the village is an ancient Roman paved way, popularly known as "The Devil's Causeway."

CHURCH STRETTON.—This pleasant little town, lying in secluded quiet between high sheltering hills that may without exaggeration be described as mountainous, is a favorite resort for persons fond of Nature, not only in her placid but in her wilder moods, and who seek renovated health in pure air and variety of scene. On the one hand rise, from out a luxuriantly wooded valley, the heathery treeless heights of the Longmynd, while, on the other, *Caer Carodoc* rears its bare and rugged shoulders to the skies. According to ancient tradition, it was on this hill that, about the middle of the first century, the famous British Prince *Caractacus* and his Silurian followers made a last desperate yet futile stand against the advance of the Roman legions under *Ostorius*. During the last century it was customary for a number of the Salopian admirers of the heroic British prince to assemble annually upon the summit of *Caradoc*, and there listen to an oration or poem spoken by one of their party in honour of *Caractacus*. This pretty custom has, however, long been discontinued, though it might, one would imagine, not unprofitably be revived. A prince and warrior whose personal presence when vanquished and a captive could inspire even his enemies in the courts of Imperial Rome with respect and admiration, might well, in his own land and on the scene of his last great

though unsuccessful exploit, be esteemed worthy such commemoration for his prowess and patriotism. The hills and valleys amidst which Church Stretton and All Stretton lie afford opportunity for many delightful rambles, especially for those capable of mountain climbing. The Carding Mill Valley, with its rocky, winding streamlet and sequestered waterfall, is a favourite scene of exploration, the magnitude and wildness of it being always impressive, whether under sun or cloud. In both Church Stretton and All Stretton there are plenty of lodging-houses, with ample and excellent accommodation. The Church is large, of Saxon origin, cruciform, and archæologically interesting. The Rector is the Rev. C. Noel-Hill, M.A. *Hotels*: The Church Stretton Hotel (nearest the Railway Station) is a very commodious, well-appointed and high-class house; Manageress, Miss Palmer. Buck's Head, Proprietor, Wm. Hyslop; King's Arms, Proprietor, G. B. Leas; The Raven, Proprietor, Wm. Houldey.

BOSCOBEL AND TONG.—By rail to Albrighton (21 miles) for Boscobel, in whose oak Charles II., after defeat at Worcester, was concealed until he could escape from the country; and for Tong, where is an imposing castle, belonging to the Earl of Bradford, and a Church, founded in 1400 and recently restored, whose perfect architectural beauty and splendid monuments (chiefly to the Pierreponts, Vernons, and Stanleys,) are a wonder and delight.

AQUATIC EXCURSIONS may very agreeably be made on the Severn (weather and water permitting), to such pleasant river-side spots as Shelton, Berwick, the Isle, Uffington, Atcham, &c. At Uffington, be it noted, is

the popular hostelry of "The Corbet Arms," where is a pretty bowling green, with umbrageous alcoves, close by Severn side, and where "teas" are to be enjoyed as in perhaps but few other places—a phenomenon due in part possibly to precedent appetising ramblings amid the closely adjacent sylvan wilds of Haghmon!





**T. PLIMMER,** Castle Restaurant, Castle Street,  
**CONFECTIONER,**  
 AND **CATERER.**



"Oh, Pailin! Prince of Cake compounders!  
 The mouth liquifies at the very name—but there."

**LUNCHEONS, DINNERS, AND TEAS.**

Parties of 6, 8, or 10 can have Tables or Private Rooms reserved for them by  
 Post or Telegram.

**BALLS & PARTIES CATERED FOR IN TOWN OR COUNTRY.**

**T. PLIMMER, PROPRIETOR.**

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✧ GROCER, ✧

## Tea Dealer, and Italian Warehouseman,

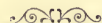
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CASSELS  
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# GROCERIES,

## Teas, Coffees, Fruits.



GRAPES  
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CRYSTALISED AND BOTTLED FRUITS.

SPECIAL SELECTION IN HIGH-CLASS TINNED GOODS.

Figs, Plums, Dates, Ginger, Chocolates, &c.

TEAS, Noted Blends	-	-	-	-	at 1/4, 1/6, 1/8, 1/10.
„ Superb China	-	-	-	-	at 2/4, & 2/6.
COFFEES, Superior Value	-	-	-	-	at 1/4, 1/6, 1/8.

BRITISH & FOREIGN WINES.

GOODS SENT ANY DISTANCE CAREFULLY PACKED. CARRIAGE PAID ON  
GOODS VALUE &1.

## General Information.

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### WATER SUPPLY.



HREWSBURY possesses a dual water supply—that is, from two different sources, distributed to consumers in the town by different means. One is from a natural spring—Broadwell—near Crow Meole, beyond Kingsland, and is conveyed in pipes to a reservoir, whence it is distributed to numerous “conduits” throughout the town. This water is used for potable purposes, and is *not* carried by pipes into the dwellings of the inhabitants, but is supplied from “conduits,” as they are locally termed, or public “taps” in the streets. The other supply is from the Severn, for common uses other than potable, and this *is* conveyed inside most of the houses throughout the borough. It is important in considering the water supply to keep clearly in view its two wholly distinct sources. The river supply is plenteous; the spring supply is both plenteous and pure, though “hard.” When boiled, however, this hardness is reduced one-half; and Mr. Baldwin Latham, the eminent consulting engineer, testifies that “it is remarkably free from dangerous impurities as discoverable by the chemist, and contains no albuminoid ammonia”—the latter fact evidencing its great purity. The water supply is in the hands of the Corporation.

## General Information.

It may be useful to subjoin here an analysis made by Mr. R. H. Harland, F.I.C., F.C.S., of the town's drinking water supply. The results are expressed in grains per gallon :—

Color .. .. .	Pale blue, clear
Suspended Matter .. ..	None
Total Hardness .. ..	20 deg.
Permanent Hardness .. ..	12 "
Total Solid Matter .. ..	28·00 "
Loss on Ignition .. ..	1·12 "
Total Mineral Matter .. ..	26·88 "
Chlorine .. ..	1·59 "
Chloride of Sodium (Salt) .. ..	2·62 "
Phosphoric Acid .. ..	Faint Trace
Free Ammonia .. ..	None
Albuminoid Ammonia .. ..	None
Nitrogen as Nitrates .. ..	·2600 "
Oxygen required to oxidise the organic matter in 2 minutes..	·0028 "
Ditto ditto in 4 hours .. ..	·0104 "
Microscopical Examination	No Deposit

## BANKS.

Eyton, Burton, & Co. (Salop Old Bank), the Square ; Manager, Mr. S. B. Ebrall. Draw on Roberts, Lubbock, and Co., 15 Lombard Street, London, E.C.

Birmingham District and Counties Banking Co., Ltd., 6 High Street ; Manager, Mr. A. Gill ; London Agents, Williams, Deacon, & Co.

Lloyds' Bank, Ltd., 1 Pride Hill ; Manager, Mr. G. Baker. London House :—Lombard Street.

National Provincial Bank of England, Bellstone ; Manager, Mr. S. Jackson.

Salop Town and County Savings Bank, 1 College Hill ; Mr. Matthews, Actuary.

## CLUBS.

The SHROPSHIRE COUNTY CLUB, in the Square, opposite the Guild Hall, has mainly a membership of gentlemen of the County, elected by ballot. It is now (1893) undergoing extensive alterations, and its internal accommodation is being largely increased. Secretary, Mr. H. W. Adnitt.

The SHREWSBURY CLUB, in Dogpole, is conducted on a very similar principle, and has a large and influential membership, chiefly gentlemen of the town. Secretary, Mr. V. C. L. Crump.

The "BEACONSFIELD" on Pride Hill is, as its title implies, the rendezvous of Salopian Conservatives. It has a good billiard room, capital reading room, convenient bar, and excellent luncheon rooms. Secretary—Mr. W. H. Lea.

The "GRANVILLE" in Hill's Lane, off Mardol, is the rallying-point of the local Liberal (we suppose we should for the present say "Gladstonian") party. The reading room, with its old oak wainscoting, is one of the finest in Shrewsbury; the billiard room is spacious and pleasant; and all other accommodation is everything that can be desired. Secretary—Mr. J. E. Jones.

The LIBERAL UNIONISTS have recently opened a Reading Room in Kenneth Chambers, Dogpole, and it well answers its purpose as a place of meeting for gentlemen, of both town and county, who follow the Duke of Devonshire and Mr. J. Chamberlain in preference to Mr. Gladstone on the Irish Home Rule question. It is well supplied with newspapers and magazines, and is



very suitably and comfortably furnished. A. P. Heywood Lonsdale, Esq., is President. Hon. Secs. : W. Toye, Esq., Castle House ; C. B. H. Soame, Esq., Dawley. Mr. S. Brame, Liberal Unionist organiser for the district, will receive names of intending members.

### HOTELS.

RAVEN, Castle Street.—Manageress, Miss S. Collett.

LION, Wyle Cop.—Manageress, Miss Hodgson.

GEORGE, Market Street.—Proprietor, Mr. G. Fox.

CROWN, St. Mary's Street.—Proprietor, Mr. H. Wise.

CLARENDON, Pride Hill.—Proprietor, Mr. G. H. Hyles.

UNICORN, Wyle Cop.—Manager, Mr. C. Kerry.

TURF HOTEL, Claremont Hill.—Proprietor, Mr. John Hyslop.

BRITANNIA, Mardol.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Bray.

ELEPHANT & CASTLE, Mardol—Proprietor, Mr. Miller

LION AND PHEASANT COMMERCIAL HOTEL, Wyle Cop.—Proprietor, Mr. R. W. Morgan.

GRAPES HOTEL, Chester Street.—Prop. Mr. R. Ince.

ST. JAMES'S TEMPERANCE HOTEL, Castle Street.—Proprietor, Mr. Barnett.

THOMAS'S TEMPERANCE HOTEL, Castle Street.—Proprietress, Miss Thomas.

JONES'S TEMPERANCE HOTEL, Castle Gates.—Proprietress, Mrs. Jones.

### RESTAURANTS.

PLIMMER'S, Castle Street.

DAVIES', Castle Gates.

DEAKIN, P., Bellstone.

JONES', Shoplatch.

GOUCHER'S, Shoplatch.

"THE WELCOME" (Temperance), Castle Gates.



## LIVERY STABLES.

- Mr. H. Franklin—Swan Hill and Raven Hotel.  
Mr. W. J. P. Pugh—Bridge Inn, English Bridge, Wyle Cop.  
Mr. F. W. Jones—Water Lane (off Castle Street).  
Mr. Jones—Abbey Foregate.  
Mr. Jones—Lion Hotel, Wyle Cop.

## BOATS AND BOATING.

- Boats for use on the river may be hired from  
Mr. R. ELLIS—at the River-side, adjacent to the Quarry,  
and at 13 Old Coleham.  
Mr. W. HUDSON—at the River-side, near the Quarry.  
Mr. H. HUDSON—Smithfield Road.  
Mr. W. GRIMSEY—Boat House Inn, opposite the Quarry  
The PENGWERN boats are available only for members of  
that Club.

## FERRIES

Are available at three convenient points upon the river within the Borough, two being between the two bridges, and the third between the suburbs of Castle Fields and Cherry Orchard. The toll is in each instance one halfpenny per passenger.

## FISHING.

With the view of protecting and improving the Severn as a fishing stream, the Shrewsbury Severn Angling Society was formed and has been in existence some eleven or twelve years. With the same object the riparian owners have recently formed themselves into an Association under the name of "The Shropshire Severn Angling Association." The annual ticket of

membership of the Shrewsbury Severn Angling Society is 5/- per annum, the Honorary Secretary being Mr. J. Williams, 3 Swan Hill Court; and Fishing tickets, 6/- each (inclusive of 1/- license of the Fishery Board), are also issued by the Shropshire Severn Angling Association, and may be obtained from Mr. F. A. Wolryche Whitmore, or from some of the Fishing Tackle makers in the town. Salmon rod licenses may likewise be obtained from Mr. J. Williams on behalf of the Severn Fishery Board. The 6/- license, which we should advise to be taken out by the visitor piscatorially inclined, carries with it the privilege of fishing in a considerable portion of Severn waters, as within the County of Salop there are but few riparian owners who are not members of the Association. It should be added that the 1/- license can be obtained from—Mr. HY. SHAW, Naturalist, High St.; Mr. J. W. ROBERTS, Fishing Tackle Maker, St. Mary's St.; Mr. ALFRED MORRIS, ditto, Frankwell; and Mr. HARRY THOMAS, ditto, Mardol Head. Accommodation for anglers and every information respecting the fishing will be readily supplied by the Manageress, Raven Hotel; Mr. G. J. Fox, George Hotel; Mr. C. Kerry, Unicorn Hotel; Mr. Hyles, Clarendon Hotel; and Mr. Wise, Crown Hotel.

#### INLAND REVENUE.

The office is situate two doors below the Lion Hotel, on Wyle Cop.

#### BOROUGH POLICE.

HEAD OFFICE—MARKET STREET, SHREWSBURY.

CHIEF CONSTABLE—Henry Blackwell (also Inspector of Explosives and Common Lodging Houses, and Chief

Inspector under the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Act).

CHIEF CLERK, STATION INSPECTOR AND INSPECTOR  
OF HACKNEY CARRIAGES—Richard Russell.

### THE GENERAL CEMETERY

For the whole of the town parishes, including Meole Brace, is very pleasantly situated on the Kingsland side of the river, on the road to Bishop's Castle, and beautifully laid out. It was formed in 1856, and comprises 27 acres, of which 15 are consecrated. Its gently undulating slopes are largely planted with trees and shrubs. There are two chapels—one Episcopal and one Nonconformist. The cost of the whole was £13,414. The grounds are open daily from 7 a.m. until sunset, except on Sunday, when it is closed from 10 a.m. till 2 p.m.

### POSTAL INFORMATION.

CHIEF OFFICE, PRIDE HILL. HEAD POSTMASTER,  
F. E. ADAMS, ESQ.

There are four deliveries of letters daily, namely, at 7.0 and 11.0 a.m., and 1.40 and 6.0 p.m.

The principal despatches are made at 2 a.m., 7.50 a.m., 8.45 a.m., 9.45 a.m., 10 a.m., 10.45 a.m., 12 noon, 1.30 p.m., 2.45 p.m., 4.30 p.m., 5.15 p.m., 5.45 p.m., and 9.30 p.m.

There are 12 town sub-offices, and 31 town letter-boxes.

The Head Office is open on Week-days for the sale of stamps, registration of letters and parcels, and delivery of callers' letters, &c., and for money order, postal order,

savings bank, insurance and annuity, and inland revenue license business, from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Telegraph business is transacted on Week-days from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., and on Sundays from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m., and from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.

### HACKNEY CARRIAGE REGULATIONS IN THE BOROUGH.

There are public Hackney Carriage Stands at the General Railway Station, in the Square, and in St. Mary's Street.

#### FARES :

For every Hackney Carriage hired and taken	s.	d.
within the Borough for the first mile	..	1 0

For every succeeding mile within the Borough	..	0 6
--	----	-----

Additional half-fare to be paid between 12 o'clock  
at night and 6 o'clock in the morning.

3d. to be paid for waiting every quarter of an  
hour.

If Passengers return, half-fare to be charged ; Every  
Passenger beyond two, to pay 6d. for the first  
mile, and 3d. for every succeeding mile.

Half-fare to be charged for Children above three and  
under twelve years of age.

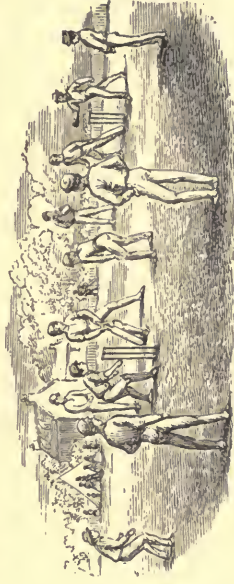
If there be more than one Passenger inside, 2d. to be  
paid for each package carried outside, and which  
cannot be carried inside.

# LITTLE & COOPER, WHOLESALE BOOT MANUFACTURERS,

SHREWSBURY, BRIDGNORTH, AND OAKENGATES.

ACKNOWLEDGED

THE  
CHEAPEST HOUSE  
IN  
THE COUNTY.



THE  
LARGEST STOCK  
TO  
SELECT FROM.

## CRICKET BOOTS AND SHOES.



## FOOTBALL BOOTS

All kinds Made to Measure promptly, and Comfort guaranteed.  
**GIVE US A TRIAL.**

Lasts made to the Feet.

Walking made a pleasure.



## LAWN TENNIS SHOES.



The Shrewsbury Wool Warehouse,  
80 WYLE COF.

MISS E. BARRINGER.

EVERY VARIETY OF

Berlin Wools, Scotch Fingerings, Yarns & Worsted

Direct from the Spinners, the best Qualities at the lowest quotations in price.

WHEELER'S RENOWNED CREWELS & PURE SILKS.

EMBROIDERIES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

EVERY KIND OF FANCY NEEDLEWORK COMMENCED WITH INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING.

THE CORSET STOCK includes an immense variety of the Latest improved Shapes, in addition to the well-known Standard makes, that this Establishment has had a long repute for.

PRICE LIST OF WOOLS, ETC., ON APPLICATION.



# NORWICH UNION LIFE INSURANCE SOCIETY

FOUNDED 1808.

Head Office: SURREY STREET, NORWICH.

Secretary & Actuary: J. J. W. DEUCHAR, F.F.A.F.I.A.

**Funds over £2,000,000.**

**Bonuses added £2,775,000.**

**Claims paid £20,000,000.**

This being a "Mutual Life Office" there are no Shareholders, and the **Entire Profits** thus belong to the members in whose interest alone the Society is conducted. Bonuses declared every 5 years. In 1891 the ordinary Bonus averaged **£2 per cent. per annum**, a rate seldom equalled by any Office. Intermediate Bonuses are allowed. For Prospectuses and full particulars apply to

THOMAS RUSSELL, 20 Severn St., Shrewsbury,

*Agent for Shrewsbury & District.*

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ESTABLISHED 1797.

# NORWICH UNION FIRE INSURANCE SOCIETY

Head Office: SURREY STREET, NORWICH.

Secretary: C. E. BIGNOLD, Esq. Assistant Secretary: C. A. B. BIGNOLD, Esq.

**Amount Insured £290,000,000.**

**Losses paid £9,000,000.**

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TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.



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LATE F. & T. HAMMONDS,

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39 Castle Street, Shrewsbury.

WENHAM LAKE ICE sent to all Parts of the Country.

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PORK PIE & SAUSAGE ESTABLISHMENT  
WHOLESALE & RETAIL  
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CELEBRATED SHREWSBURY BRAWN.

N.B.—THE TRADE SUPPLIED ON REASONABLE TERMS.

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**S. COCK,**

—•—•— CONFECTIONER, —•—•—  
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Rooms. Servants' Registry.

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Every Accommodation for Families and Tourists.

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JOHN HYSLOP, Proprietor.

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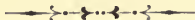
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Working Men may have a Ticket for the use of the Room on payment of the nominal sum of 1/- per annum—other subscriptions may vary from 2/6 to £1 1s. and upwards.

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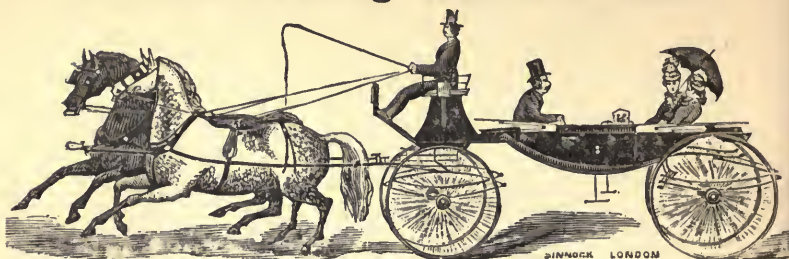
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Gents' Outfitting is a distinctive feature. The WREKIN Shirts, home-made by experienced hands, is a special and superior article, that has given wide-spread satisfaction.

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